Prayers

OFFERED BY THE CHAPLAIN
REV. JAMES SHERA MONTGOMERY, D. D.
AT THE OPENING OF THE
DAILY SESSIONS OF THE

House of Representatives

DURING
THE SEVENTIETH AND THE
SEVENTY-FIRST CONGRESSES
1927–1931

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Prayers

OFFERED BY THE CHAPLAIN
REV. JAMES SHERA MONTGOMERY, D. D.
AT THE OPENING OF THE DAILY SESSIONS OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES
DURING THE SEVENTIETH AND THE
SEVENTY-FIRST CONGRESSES
1927–1931

UNITED STATES
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE
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HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION No. 15

[Submitted by Mr. STEVENSON]

Resolved *by the House of Representatives* (*the Senate concurring*), That five thousand copies of the prayers offered by the Reverend James Shera Montgomery, Chaplain of the House of Representatives, at the opening of the daily sessions of the House during the Seventieth and Seventy-first Congresses, be printed and bound for the use of the House of Representatives.

Adopted February 2, 1932.

Foreword

The present day requires variety and brevity in public utterances, whether at the sacred desk or in the forum of debate. This disposition arises largely from the character and the necessities of our civilization.

The Reverend Doctor James Shera Montgomery, Chaplain of the United States House of Representatives, has not only these virtues, but back of them is the power of eloquence, culture, and experience. His daily supplications in the House are flashes of inspiration and are most effective, as they give impulse to the sacredness of duty in the public service.

Free from any suggestion of sectarian bias, the Members of the House generally love him and are profited when his voice is heard.

I sincerely commend this book of prayers to good people everywhere.

JOHN N. GARNER,
Speaker.

For Sale by the Superintendent of Documents
Washington, D. C. - Price 20 cents (paper cover)

Prayers

Offered by the Chaplain at the Opening of the Daily Sessions of the House of Representatives of the United States During the Seventieth Congress (1927–1929)

First Session

Monday December 5 1927

Almighty God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, in whose presence there is fullness of joy and at Thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore, we humbly acknowledge Thee to be the only true God. Our praise and gratitude rise to Thee and our restraining meekness would say: "Glory be to Thee, O Lord, most high, Thy will be done." In the light of Thy love the valleys of our experience have been exalted and the deep things have been illuminated. At the very front door of this Congress may we realize the sanctity of our commission and know that the measure of our power shall be the measure of our virile, manly virtues. O Holy Spirit, shine upon our weakness and press upon our deepest beings; diffuse them through and through with a consuming energy and devotion for our whole beloved land. We pause again and in this solemn stillness breathe an earnest prayer for our Speaker, the Members, and officers of this Chamber. Do Thou inspire us with the might of Thy wisdom, the majesty of Thy sacrifices, and the glory of Thy shame. May we not be forced in our labors by the cold motive of duty, but by the urgency of love—love of God, love for the Republic, and an appreciation for all humanity. At the last may we hear the music break on the eternal shores. Amen.

Tuesday
December 6
1927

O LORD OUR GOD, Thou art a great and gentle Father; One who forgives our sins and sustains us with undying hope. For these unspeakable mercies we thank Thee. Do Thou set us free from all evil desire; cleanse our hearts from all inordinate affections, and may our love for the pure and good grow with each succeeding day. O blend Thy heart with ours and grant us the sympathy that takes its impressions from the duties that pass our way. Raise us to the height of a fine aspiration and lift us to the summit of a compelling faith. Teach us the courage of patience, the strength of endurance, and the real power and value of self-restraint. Bless and guard our native land and may the spirit of truth be incarnated in all our fellow citizens and in all our institutions. We pray in the name of the Great Teacher. Amen.

Wednesday
December 7
1927

SPIRIT DIVINE—the eternal source of all things good and pure, the way, the truth, the life—dissolve our hearts in gratitude and mold our wills with Thine. Thou all-embracing love, Thou all-preserving power, bless and guide us this day by Thy holy presence. Amid the burden and the care, amid the labor and the calm, it shall hold us and make easy the yoke of toil. Bless us in that rigid service that makes us master of pure desire and gives us a thirst for that law that makes us dead to force and fear. Blessed Lord, may we see the crown of that which was once our cross; the good of that which was once our thorn; the victory of that which was once our trial. Throughout our fair land—wherever the lamp of truth is shining, wherever the rugged virtue of justice is lifting a warning finger, wherever charity and tolerance are wearing their heavenly liveries—we beseech Thy richest blessings upon them. Amen.

Thursday December 8 1927

Heavenly Father, Thou art divinely good again to gladden our hearts and to cheer our lives. Thou hast continued to bestow upon us Thy sacred gifts. Through the serene of light and the calm of dark we have been kept by Thy soothing, restful Providence. We thank Thee. Our Republic, O God, with all its splendid traditions, with all its marvelous progress, do Thou remember. By the inspiration of high idealism and Christian aspiration may it live on and on to disappoint our foes and to surprise our friends. May every section be guarded against any enemy that may be stalking to mar or disturb our national unity. May the culture of peace, good will, and brotherhood keep our Nation erect and calm for the blessing of all who dwell within our borders. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday December 9 1927

Thou Gracious God, out of the depths of our needs, out of the depths of our hopes, out of the depths of our failures we would say: O give thanks unto the Lord; for He is good and His mercy endureth forever. Favored as we are by the constancy of Divine care, impress us that he alone deserves Thy mercy who does his best to conform to Thy law. May our conduct this day proceed from right convictions and from belief in the truth. To him who does what in him lies, God will not deny His grace. Bring our minds humbly to the thought that Thou art above all and over all. In the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Saturday December 10 1927

Thy presence, O God, is meant to enrich and beautify all life. We praise Thee that the light of Thy Providence folds us in its sure embrace.

Thy power is all about us. We breathe Thy air, we are warmed by Thy sun, we are awed by Thy glory, and we are kept by Thy daily care. We recall memories which we can not define and satisfactions which we can not analyze; yet we bless Thee. Clothed with the insignia of a great responsibility, God forbid that we should be untrue to our best selves. If greed and injustice exist, may it be said that they exist in defiance of our cherished principles. By fortitude, by patience, by a conscientious devotion to our country's welfare, help us to discharge the supreme claims which are upon us. Make our understanding a fortress safe and secure. O may we give ourselves up to Thy wise and gentle guidance, through Christ. Amen.

Monday
December 12
1927

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, our days are in Thy hands. Do Thou give us the blessing of a sweet resignation. Come to us and sweep aside the mists of error; fortify our weakness and strengthen in all of us the wholesome sense of personal worth and the joy of life. Help us to glory in the wonderful precepts of the Master, by whose invasion the world is to be conquered, by whose presence the world is to be awed, by whose rapture the world is to be thrilled, and at whose knees the world is to bow. O may the knowledge of His truth wedge its way into all our lives and may our feet press His highway. Amen.

Tuesday
December 13
1927

O THOU INFINITELY HOLY SPIRIT, Thou alone canst make our lives worthy. Bless us with that sweet, strange melody—namely, the whisper of Thy voice. Give us the morning face, the morning courage, the morning vision, and the blessing of the evening calm. Build up our hopes, our lives, and even our divine audacities. All these are the wings that carry us on amidst the push and the appeal of

human interests. Forgive our sins, blessed Father, and help us to withstand the conflicts of life's old problem. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Lord, how manifold are Thy works! In wisdom hast Thou made them all.

Wednesday December 14 1927

Purge our vision, widen our horizons, and open our spiritual eyes that we may behold the light of Thy countenance. Refresh us, ennoble us, and purify us, that we may measure up to the highest ideals of manhood. God be with America's incomparable hero as he sails on in the open bowl of the skies, passes the shoulders of the mountains, and enters the gateway of the Republic on the south. May his chivalry, simplicity, and high moral standards be an example and inspiration to the youth of our land. We pray in the name of Jesus, the world's Savior. Amen.

Thursday December 15 1927

Not unto us, O Lord, but unto Thee give glory for Thy mercy. Come unto us that we may hallow Thy name and fulfill Thy law. Strengthen us to do Thy will. This day may we put some touches of sunlight into the lives of others. Guide us in the way of right living. May we not live by bread alone, but by the inspiration of the noblest pursuits of life. We thank Thee for our rich privileges; may we use them for the honor and glory of Thy name and for the good of our fellow men. In the spirit of Jesus of Nazareth. Amen.

Friday December 16 1927

He that cometh unto Thee with an honest heart, blessed Heavenly Father, Thou wilt surely hearken. Encourage us to draw near with our needs, with our limitations, and with our appeals for wisdom. Make us able to bear the vision of the truth and

may we have the determination to dedicate ourselves to it. Oh, the love of truth secures ineffable peace, when the flower of life's summer lies withered and dead. We would not seek love of praise, hope of gain, nor delusive happiness, but the stability and the good of the Republic. May Thy plan and purpose be shadowed in our deliberations. Amen.

Monday December 19 1927

SPIRIT OF HOLINESS, Thy love has brought to the gates of our lives the footsteps of One who is the sovereign expression of man's utmost need and man's utmost hope. Do Thou move in advance of us and direct the way. Come and give our work its charm, our association its blessing, and to the whole day its joy. Brace our souls with certainties, and may they not be furrowed by doubts. Be Thou the invisible bridge that unites us in our dreams and aspirations with man wherever he is found. In the name of the Son of Man. Amen.

Tuesday December 20 1927

DO THOU GIVE US THINE OPEN EAR, LORD GOD OF HOSTS, and we would unbar the doors of our hearts. Let Thy Spirit be the bond of fellowship and may He speak within the circle of our souls. Amid the forces of life we despair of anything like personal independence and mastery. Yet while they often bear us to the very edge of doom, inspire us and hold us with the heroic accent of unquenchable faith. O God, a tragedy has torn the Nation's heart and holds it in a freezing blight. Oh, the cheerless, defiant waters; the charts can not help the vessel that is fast upon their jagged floor! But come Thou to the dear loved ones, who are dazed and speechless in the curtains of their grief. The men, our heroic brothers, the stalwarts of the waves, who in the face of peril never wore a lowering brow in the face of danger, give them great peace and

resignation as they pass through the tortures of their transition. At the eternal daydawn, robed in the splendor of a fadeless morning, may their jubilant anchors be cast in the stormless harbor of heaven above. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday December 21 1927

Almighty God, we are now in the foreglow of a sky light overhead. The ancient message is to be glorified, and the old earth is to receive the fulfillment of its dreams. We therefore praise Thee. We shall soon hear the melody bursting forth from the union of heaven and earth saying, "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men." May the richest blessing of the Advent bring cheer and happiness to all our homes. Fill all our firesides with health and gladness like the glow of a sympathetic sunlight. O especially remember the separated loved ones. Lord God of Nations, bless our native land. May Thine altars be set up in high places; may Thy banners of righteousness, justice, and truth be unfurled in our skies, and may hate die down like the voice of an angry sea. O let the high standards of charity and brotherly love prevail to the remotest sections of our fair land. In the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Wednesday January 4 1928

The day spring from on high hath visited us, and we thank Thee, our Heavenly Father; His star hath shown on the brow of night and opened the gates of the morning, and again we praise Thee. O God, the ceaseless surge of time and tide rolls on; helpless we are to stay the travel of the years. We implore Thee to help us to be diligent and not fretful, lest we fail ere the set of sun. O may we not be chilled by the outlook. Give us a sane and a reasonable faith—a faith with its radiant facts, with its convincing principles, and with its

simple commandments. Yes; give us a sympathy that includes all humanity. Again, dear Lord God, give us a religion with the arch of blue above its head and all Thy earthly children round its altars. O give us a large measure of health, wisdom, and charity for the new year. Amen.

Thursday
January 5
1928

ALL OUR TIMES ARE IN THY HANDS, O GOD, and gratitude fills our hearts to-day! Give us the light of Thy truth; invigorate our understanding that we may have right discernment in the solution of all problems. Ours is a moral duty which no one can ignore and no individual can evade. May we stand forth on the golden roll of those of every age who have wrought righteousness, tamed wickedness, and contributed to the ethical assets of their day. In the volume of life's experience may we be inspired by the lessons of courage, of faith in God, of confidence in our institutions, and devotion to the principles of education and liberty. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday
January 6
1928

INFINITE GOD, whose throne is in the hearts of Thy loving children wherever they are found, we thank Thee that neither place nor time can separate us from Thy love. May we meditate upon Thy providences with grateful feelings, exalted hopes, and great thoughts. Allow us not to be cradled in illusions, but help us to look up and discover the golden crown which hovers above. O river of God's mercy! It is the blessing which feeds the world, and by its might we shall yet find our paradise. Bless us with an irresistible yearning that sends us beyond the narrow boundaries of self and stretches our vision under wider skies. Teach us that he who overcomes self treads the world under foot. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Saturday January 7 1928

Almighty and most merciful Father, as yesterday is merged into the promise of to-day, we bow in Thy holy presence with faith in Thine unchangeable character and with renewed confidence in Thy Holy Word. As it lies before us fresh from Thine hands, may we keep it spotless. We recall the incomparable life of Thy Son. We would move forward in the light of the truth revealed by Him. There is a silent witness in every breast that sanctions every good deed; increase its strength and make it more susceptible to holy influences. Impress us that dreams are often shadows that dazzle for a day; but, oh, for the deed that comes through, crowned with wisdom and skill. This is the man! God help us to be such. Amen.

Monday January 9 1928

Gracious Lord God, as we are summoned again to our sacred tasks, may we be mindful of the wide reaches of Thy goodness, which is the necessity of earth. Keep us from confusing moral principles and enable us to see, choose, and follow the best. May we be courageous enough to put first things first and worthy enough to bear the torch of truth up the hills of light. Let Thy Holy Spirit flood all hearts, dispel care, quiet fret, and smother fear. Father in heaven, may we know that the best victories of any life are the victories won within a man's own heart. Help us to bear our responsibilities with integrity, humanity, and composure. In the holy name of Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday January 10 1928

Look down, bend low, our Heavenly Father, and hold us in the shadow of Thy presence. With tenderness and compassion, O teach us the way to see, to reason, to act, and to bear our part that we may be a real blessing to our country. We are at our best only when we fulfill the purpose for

which we are here. Make us keenly sensitive of our reputation and opportunities. By prolonged and studious effort help us to learn the most beautiful and valuable lessons of life. By the conquest of difficulties help us to live sweeter in our hearts and braver in our lives. Keep us better than the bad and make us equal to the best. At Thy altar we ask for the blessing of humility—the wonder grace that never boasts of victory and never leaves a pain. Be gracious to all our land and bless our citizens everywhere with peace and plenty. Amen.

Wednesday January 11 1928

O THOU who hast taught us to say, "Our Father," teach us to say, "Thy will be done." It is the foundation of our usefulness, hope, and redemption. Inspire us with the knowledge that the issues of life are not from without but from within. Do Thou lift up the standard of truth and wisdom before us, and may it gleam on our way. Give us the blessedness of the man whose delight is in the law of the Lord and who can tell of Thy statutes rejoicing the heart. May failure never set its cloud upon our labors. Amen.

Thursday January 12 1928

WE APPROACH THEE NOW, O SOUL OF OUR SOULS. As we have in ourselves the power to love and the longing to do, how much more shall we find in Thee the same love and power! O the pity of it when we fail to bow to our higher natures and neglect to live out the divine life. Help us to check the minor strain that often runs low and sound the note of the ministry of our best manhood. We beseech Thee to help us always carry it up to spiritual culture and beauty. We acknowledge our responsibility of our time and place, and ask for full power to transform all fruitless wastes into gardens of promise and gladness. Lord God of Nations, bless

our entire country and all institutions that make for a better national life. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday January 13 1928

Our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for this new day, for health, for happy friendships, for the open sky, for the wide earth; but we pray for the greatest wealth—the blessing of an undefiled heart. May the hand that bears all nature up protect our homes and shield us from the enemy that never abdicates. Thou who art our Sovereign Friend, from whom earth's greatest souls have borrowed all their gifts, bless us with music without discord, with purity without stain, and with that peace which is far beyond human analysis. Wherever there are ignorance and restless passion, do Thou shed Thy light and bestow Thy strength. May we hate injustice, smite falsehood, and be consumed with a passion for righteousness, for the glory of Thy name, and for the good of our country. Amen.

Wednesday January 18 1928

Out of the depths of our needs and hopes we ask of our Heavenly Father wisdom and guidance. May we put into each day some definite value; and being pure in our purpose, strong in our contentions for the right, we shall justify our calling. With certainty may we understand that our visions for our country are only worth while when they are made permanent and serve our fellow men. In the interest of the common life may our faith be translated into worthy zeal. Do Thou help us to the ministry of a well-ordered life; let all our forces be well drilled, well disciplined, and bless us with an evangelizing influence of chaste and winsome characters. Power is only hallowed when it works to hallowed ends. We pray in the name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Thursday
January 19
1928

O GOD, we praise Thee that Thou art love. Thou hast taught us that the sublimest and greatest obligation of the soul is love. In the radiance of this virtue the humblest, the greatest, and the best men of earth have walked. So enrich our souls that out of them this gift shall flow until no shadow falls between us and our fellow men. O Spirit Divine, descend upon us and make us willing to help the right win and the best prevail. Take our gifts and make them Thine. Take our reason that it may ever seek the truth; take our will and make it free; take our heart and rest it on the bosom of the Father; take our imagination and merge it with the ideal of Thy beauty. The anchor of a good man is love! When at our desks, when in the forum, in the street, in business, or in the rest and quiet of home, may it hold. Amen.

Friday
January 20
1928

ETERNAL GOD AND OUR FATHER, we thank Thee that Thou art the accessible and holy authority for all who come unto Thee. We would be earnest seekers for the power of the spirit of service to fulfill the duties and the privileges of to-day. Lift us far above all blame and need of praise by inspiring us to make our lives noble, our love of country sacred, our loyalty beyond question, and our achievements a rebuke to ease. Blessed Lord God, help us to live among men as builders of all that tends for stability, order, and the very best productiveness in human life. Strengthen our ties of fraternity, broaden our scope of charity, and may our simple, holy faith have a fine fruition in all hearts. After a long while let us rest where all night is past and where the day has dawned forever. In the holy name of Jesus. Amen.

Monday
January 23
1928

OUT OF THE BOSOM OF OUR HEAVENLY FATHER has come this radiant day, and we praise Thee, We thank Thee for the noontide in the midst of life and labor; we thank Thee for the sunset glory; we thank

Thee for the light in the depths of the stars as we wait for the morning dawn. Send out Thy light, O God, to those who sit in darkness; give courage and strength to those who falter, and broaden the vision of all. With brave hearts and stout hands may we grip heroically the problems of our Republic. The ones who need us have a valid claim against us. Direct us always to discriminate between the good and the bad, the true and the false. Through Christ. Amen.

Tuesday January 24 1928

HOLY SPIRIT, come and lift up the toiler; come and clothe the ragged; come and heal the sick; and come and feed the starving multitudes wherever they are found. May we bring our offerings to the very doorway of that humanity for which the Savior died. The richest, the wisest, and the greatest of men owe a debt to their fellows. O may we not leave duty to the tide of events or be reluctant in the discharge of our sacred obligations. Let the thought of a personal God, who watches over us, become the cheering passion of our grateful souls. May we welcome to the bosom of our country the President of that Free State across the seas. Lord God of Nations, bless that people and give great success and prosperity to that land of sunshine and lovers of freedom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday January 25 1928

SPIRIT OF GOD, teach us that Thy will is love; teach us that Thy love is wise. May our hearts' supreme wish be to give to our fellows good thoughts, strong principles, supporting comforts, and heavenly ideals. By grace help us to win the victories of faith and to do justice and to love mercy. Through chastened devotion to the public service may we animate others to follow our example. In every situation give us the light that never fails and the strength that never breaks. Amen.

Thursday
January 26
1928

LEAD US, O FATHER, to give our faith in truth that keeps us going and that we can live by. Direct us toward goals that are worth working for. We pray that our Nation may be given instruction that shall inspire our fellow citizens to live in peace and have the utmost liberty consistent with the liberty of all others. May the wisdom that comes from obedience to Thy laws prevail everywhere. Thou canst see every tear; and wilt Thou in mercy answer its appeal as it glistens from the bed of sickness and when it calls from men who are struggling for their own? Be with us, and always point out the way of moral and spiritual certainty. Amen.

Monday
January 30
1928

ETERNAL GOD, mighty to save and bless, subdue our wills and yet sustain our resolution. True love comes to its finest expression in self-sacrifice. So help us that our wisest learning, our best possessions, our brightest hours, and our largest abilities may be given to humanity. Fortify our wills that we may work bravely, earnestly, and wisely; we shall thus find life sweeter and service richer. The safety of our country lies in the virtues that spring from trust in God. Do Thou give balance to understanding, compensation for loss, and restraint for temper. When the day is done may cares roll away and Thine arms enfold us, which is the essence of the life divine. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday
January 31
1928

BENEATH the shadow of our Heavenly Father our lives are moving on. For the weakest and the humblest of Thy children there is a goal of love; there is deliverance from evil; there is a transformation into all goodness. We need to start this day right. Make our hearts exceedingly sensitive to the least variation from the truth. Give us, O Lord,

clearness of moral perception. Put purpose, power, and contentment into our lives. May sweet charity be their urgent note and pity the one whose heart has grown bitter. Come to the great, wide, needy world of humanity; open its heart to Thee that it may walk in Thy light and possess Thy peace. In the blessed name of our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday February 1 1928

Heavenly Father, our memories are full of Thy loving-kindness and our hope holds on to the future. We see Thee in Thy providences. Bring us to the altar where vows are made, and may we dedicate our dearest treasures to Thee. Bless us with the assurance that Thy way is the best way for our feet to tread. O the soul that is brought face to face with Thee—this is the best moment of one's life. Give us Thy presence, Thy call, and Thy wisdom. Correct any false estimates of life and duty, and run Thy tremendous truth into all our hearts: "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but My words shall not pass away." May we love them now and forever. Amen.

Thursday February 2 1928

Our Jehovah Father, these words are with us: "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Thy truth is immortal! It is everlastingly at morning's dawn. Every upright endeavor of every upright heart is to know the truth. Holy Spirit, be with us. Tell us that there are portals more golden than eye or ear. Enable us to see in Thee that which flesh or blood can not reveal. Speak to our souls and show us the power of Thy sacrifice and the empire of Thy love. Let Thy spiritual accent fall on their altars and beget a longing in us to be one with Thee. May we enjoy this world and after a while enjoy the world eternal. Amen.

Friday
February 3
1928

ALMIGHTY GOD AND OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou who art infinite in love and wisdom, in the spirit of the Teacher of Galilee we would draw near to Thee; help us to do so. We come to receive that inspiration which shall enable us to go through the duties of this day with dignity, courage, and patience. As we discharge our obligations may we weave characters on the great loom of life's activities that shall be above reproach and can be spoken of without apology and above a whisper. Permit nothing to interfere with the direct study of the problems of our Republic. Arouse within us the unquenchable ambition, in public duty and in private life, to be led and directed by Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday
February 6
1928

OUR MOST GRACIOUS FATHER IN HEAVEN, in whom we have our being, do Thou inspire all that is best and noblest in us. With wise determination help us to measure up to the lofty principles and ideals of Thy teaching. Take us this day into Thy divine favor, that this representative body of a great people may have big vision and the finest sense of justice. Every endeavor that is destined to succeed is founded on the broad principles of the fatherhood of God and the brotherhood of man. We are here again to work, to touch common toil, and to dignify it, to sanctify the homely things of life. Establish Thou the work of our hands. Light up the altar stairs of our souls and give us the blessing of the white hope. Amen.

Tuesday
February 7
1928

WE THANK THEE, DEAR LORD, that the heavenly vision gives us inward peace. It helps to obliterate sorrow, disappointment, and misfortune. By faith in Thee they lose their power to distress us. We praise Thee that we are not at the hazard of a blind, remorseless force. Holy Spirit, lead us on

to the larger and finer attainments; build up the spiritual man and develop the kingdom that is within. Oh, these, our ministries of trust! May they acquire such glory at our hands that criticism can not dull or infidelity deride. Take our souls, clear them of doubt and of storm cloud; open the doors of our hearts and set our spirits free. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday February 8 1928

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for Thy Holy Word. Light up the old texts that we used to know; illuminate the time-worn phrases that our mothers taught us in years gone by; reveal unto us their tardy applications and let go their deep spiritual meaning. Our mothers and fathers, they lived so simply; their ways were so toilsome. May their honest virtues pass on into our lives. Our country, so dear to all hearts! Our free institutions, so wonderful in their blessings! If we fail to remember these, let our tongues cleave to the roofs of our mouths. Let service, patriotic service, become sweeter in our hearts and braver in our lives. O God, persuade us that the man who day by day cherishes a sweet, uplifting love is the grandest specimen that can be produced. In the holy name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Thursday February 9 1928

O Thou who hast created us wilt not leave us alone. Thou dost understand our possibilities, and we ask Thee to help us make the best use of ourselves. Surely Thou wilt watch over us until all Thy promises are fulfilled. Purify every desire, cleanse every motive, and deliver us from the throes of weakness and sin. O sin, the monster—how it hurts him who cherishes it as well as the one against whom it rages! Clear the way and make firm and steadfast our footsteps that we may prove ourselves worthy of Thy daily providential care. Keep our

minds free from evil and our hearts from guile, and may we indulge ourselves in the great hope that righteousness is destined to cover the wide earth even as the waters cover the seas. When the curtain of the day is drawn may we have no regrets, but peace, sweet peace, the gladdest and the happiest possession of earth. Amen.

Friday
February 10
1928

OUR BLESSED, BLESSED HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou hast called us to a great task. We would prepare ourselves at Thy altar, and there exercise the greatest and the humblest virtue, which is penitence. May our greatest victories be wrought in our own hearts. Let the thought of God become increasingly precious to us. Open Thou our eyes that we may behold wondrous things out of Thy law. Show us the wealth that lies beneath the old familiar Word. O teach us over again the glory of that treasure that lies hidden in the songs of Zion, and raise us up to that height of aspiration which was the summit of the prophets of old. Make these hours golden by revealing unto us Thy wisdom. But, above all, make us men after God's own heart—which is, make us just, loving, generous, and magnanimous. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday
February 13
1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, maker of heaven and earth and Father of all mercies, we thank Thee that the genius of our Republic contemplates the high privilege for every citizen to worship God according to the voice of his own conscience. It also secures to each the right to enjoy the fruits of his own labors. Forbid, O Lord, that we should pass by these blessings unnoticed. May they fall even upon the hearts of the reluctant and stupid and summon them to a more grateful life. We pause at one of the most radiant pages in our Nation's biography. In Thy name we bless his sacred memory. No son of the

Republic has ever passed from a cradle so humble to a grave so illustrious. We praise Thee that antagonisms and enmities are no more and that every section of Columbia is joined in a national anthem of self-respect, reverence, and brotherhood. As long as the human heart remains to revere truth, fidelity, and goodness may we seek to make for our united country an everlasting name in heaven and earth. May it grow more stately and shine more brilliantly on the shore line of time, fulfilling the genius and mission of a great, free, united people. Amen.

Tuesday February 14 1928

We breathe our hearts' deep love to Thee, our Father, while sweet and tender memories steal over our souls. We thank Thee for health and for all the gifts Thy love imparts. So do Thou incline our hearts to seek the altar of prayer and thanksgiving. Just now let us hear Thy voice, catch its music, behold the day, and be glad. Soften our wills that we may sympathize with one another's failures. In every way lead us to magnify Thy name in human lives and homes. O Thou who dost ever sit at the fireside of the human heart; O Thou who hast never lifted a hand to smite, but is ever aloft in holy benediction, remind us that every self-surrender of man to his own higher self is met by the self-revelation of God. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday February 15 1928

Hear us, O Lord of the vineyard. Thou dost still send us forth to the fields of service. As each has his own task, may he achieve Thy good pleasure by a thorough devotion to duty. Helpfulness enters into the fundamental conception of our living. The praise of life is that man exhales bounty and stimulus and encouragement as he journeys on. Keep us clear of any just accusation that we have done any evil thing. Permit us to work with Thee

in the service of our country, in the growth of Christian idealism, and in bringing heaven and earth nearer together. Rebuke our ease, smite our selfishness, and lead us on toward that realm where all night is past and the day has dawned. Amen.

Thursday February 16 1928

GOD OF YESTERDAY, TO-DAY, AND FOREVER, we know that Thy mercy underlies the spacious earth around. The divine life in humanity is the supreme test that we may rise above our present limitations. As the problems of government are with us, help us to solve them with patience, gentleness, and brotherly love. Let our moderation be known among all men, desisting from self-praise, self-glorification, and invidious comparisons. Spare us from becoming a torment of our own ambitions and a prey of our own untamable desires. Guide us, for we are needy; help us, for we are weak; deliver us, for the way is uncertain; and save us lest we fall. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday February 17 1928

THY WILL BE DONE. It sometimes may be very difficult, our Heavenly Father. It may summon us to surrender personal ease; it may cost us the disdain of the world; it may demand of us to give up friendship. Help us to brave all entreaties and commands and be a force that nothing can retard nor withstand. "Love never faileth." Oh, what a radiant flower, whose perfume is always refreshingly fragrant! In it there is no bitterness and no acid in its fruit. It is a freedom from all impurity and an absence from all despair. It is so sweet, healthy, and sane. Teach us, O God, as we are passing on, that "Now abideth faith, hope, love, these three, but the greatest of these is love." Amen.

Monday February 20 1928

O Thou Spirit Divine, do Thou come to us that we may dwell together. There shall be a union of infinite might and human frailty. Thy holy Word is with us: "Forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us." Oh, it is a mighty soul that can pity and forgive! He feels their appeal and tries to give them relief. We would pass by genius, wealth, and victory over enemies and ask Thee for the blessing of forgiving hearts and strong, decisive minds. This should be the underlying purpose of our beings. Magnify Thyself and enable us to carry serviceableness, cheer, and faithfulness into every duty of this day. Help the dark places of the world and bless them with heavenly light. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday February 21 1928

Thou art still our God, our Heavenly Father. Thy loving providence is still our perpetual accompaniment. How we do thank Thee that the world is not impelled by a blind, resistless, heartless force! The Spirit of God has made us, and the breath of the Almighty has given us life; in Him we have our refuge and strength. Keep the windows of our souls open and lead us to a higher and higher valuation of the things of the spirit. We most humbly acknowledge the majesty and the glory of the Galilean Teacher. In Him, through Him, and for Him may we give ourselves to Thee and to the services of our Republic. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday February 22 1928

We thank Thee, Almighty God, that our highest human happiness is the wonderful privilege of entering into the joy of the Lord! Through Thee the pillars of the eternal world are made firm and

the earth is stirred with a melody unheard before! We pray for that strength that shall cause our inner natures to grow into stalwart dimensions. Thou has crowned us with honor and glory and given us a responsibility in the moral sovereignty of the world. With all the grasp of our mortal strength may we be alive to the calls and claims of our day. O God, a rich sentiment has set this hour apart. We pause to pay worthy tribute to him whose dust sleeps upon the banks of the historic Potomac. A Republic undergirded by the best blood and overarched by Thy Providence adjourns in memory of him who was great in righteous war and magnanimous in peace. He lives at the very foundation of our Government, at the firesides of our land, and in the grateful hearts of his countrymen. May the story of his sacrifice, of his chivalry, of his lofty sense of right and justice live on and on to bless and inspire the coming generations of men. In the name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Thursday
February 23
1928

ETERNAL GOD, we thank Thee for the infinite revelation of Thy wisdom. So intensify our motives that our aim shall be to express the lofty in that which seems to be small and trivial. Draw us so near to Thee that principle, affirmation, and a prevailing sense of duty may be the sustained attractiveness of our characters. Put into our souls the love of the pure and in our lips the law of kindliness. O lead us on to do the right—do the right, for finally it will be acknowledged everywhere; do the right, for some day it will bring up all arrears; do the right, for it will eventually stand forth in the white light that must forever beat against the Father's throne; do the right, for in the ages to come it shall be crowned with fullness of joy and pleasures for evermore. The Lord God help us. Amen.

Friday February 24 1928

BLESSED LORD, we know that Thou art near by the thoughts of our hearts. Let Thy approach put everything else to silence, holy silence; it makes all others discord. Do Thou create within us chastened and softened spirits. Visit the poor and the unfortunate and cause them to smile through tearless laughter. No human being is so prized as he who advances through the conquest of difficulty. Opportunity is sacred. Teach us what patience and diligence can do through prolonged effort. Be with our country, and may the spirit of brotherhood and trust beat and throb until they echo to the remotest boundary lines of the Union. Amen.

Monday February 27 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thy mercy need not be graven in stone, for it has been stamped forever on the hearts of grateful men. It has transcended time, space, and light, and embraces a multitude which no one can number. Breath of our breathing, light of our gladness, and soul of all, hear us. Be with us in our aims, our ambitions, and in our dearest affections. Pardon us if we are miserly, forgive us if we are filled with pride, and spare us from becoming a victim of an evil temper. Thou who canst bind up the hurt hearts and inspire with bright hopes those who are tossed on the maddened waves of life, be Thou our way, our truth, and our life. O Thou whose wisdom we never seek in vain, be at our sides. Amen.

Tuesday February 28 1928

O LORD, our lives are just a breath of Thine infinite nature; hence, may we not look with disdain or hold in contempt any human creature. We thank Thee that we are Thy rational children. Humbly and earnestly we ask for discerning minds that our knowledge of principles, of methods, and of men may be wise. Thy supreme favor is on those who have hearts and minds of unselfish devotion to

service. Give us courage to generously recognize another's worth, to guard another's interest, and to surrender to another's just claims. Blessed spirit of God, help us always to discern between the value and the curse of wealth, between the beauty and the disease of luxury. Be the bow of promise in every threatening cloud, the balance of all discord, and the compensation for all loss. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday February 29 1928

MOST MERCIFUL AND ALL-WISE FATHER, Thou hast made waiting beautiful and patience sweet. Thy Holy Spirit is like an invisible bridge that unites us in our hopes and dreams. Thou dost give us the zest of soul that sorrow can not keep down and the cheer that burdens can not crush. Renew to-day the sunshine of our hearts and the childhood of our spirits. O God, humanity is all about us teeming through the arteries of the Republic. Many there are with stained garments and heavy hearts; they are struggling for mere existence through a veiled cloud. Stay Thou the threatening signs of social, moral, and political plague. The mission of Jesus of Nazareth is indispensable. He holds for all weary souls and bodies the remedy for our national ills. O may the holy arms that were once stretched on the cross be loosened more and more to clasp the whole human family in one embrace. Then there shall be no more classes, but there shall be just men —the crowning gifts of God's creation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday March 1 1928

O GOD OF WISDOM, GOD OF LOVE, we thank Thee for a faith that rises to a high certainty. We praise Thee that we are enfolded within the arms of Thy eternal mercy. We are so grateful that Thy beloved Son has swept aside all ideas of a throne of

iron, of law, of icy intellect, of marble heart, and reflected Thee as a loving Father. O the wonderfully rich meanings of that word! They could never be conveyed by power, intellect, or authority, but they are easily set forth by the deep sentiments which cluster about the word "Father." We are Thy children. Thou dost help us to meet despondency with courage, disappointment with resignation, weakness with strength, and fear with hope. O this life with its tasks and opportunities, with the mighty day in which we live! Forbid that it should be to us just a partial eclipse of doubt and dueling, but a call, a high-sounding call to God and our country, in whose mirrors we shall be judged. Amen.

Saturday March 3 1928

Infinite Spirit, from behind the veil of sense and force in that golden land of the unseen, there is the source from whence flow the sweetest harmonies of the soul. Lift us up and away to those upper ranges, where the breath is not stifled and the room is not cramped, and where our divine natures can climb on and on. Lead us above the level of our own poor understanding and into the paths where God's hand is upon us, where the charm of character is so focused in our personality that it shall emit good influences even as the sun sheds its rays. Definitely direct us so that ambition to rule shall be supplanted by the passion to serve. Father, in the shadow of Thy holy presence let us walk; then we shall know of the newer, richer, and deeper meaning of life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday March 5 1928

Heavenly Father, truly it is a noble art to appreciate our blessings and to count them worthily. "The Lord God is a sun and a shield; He will give grace and glory; no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly." Help us to stand on our feet, hold our heads erect, and look life

straight in the face. Take from us any ignoble spirit and at any sacrifice firmly hold us by the golden rule, whose gold is good. Bless all institutions that help and succor man. Come to our country in such a progress that we shall be able to see and understand Thy guidance. O make Thyself present in all our national affairs, that they shall move forward in a steady stream of splendid Christian development. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday
March 6
1928

THY WILL, O LORD, BE DONE. It bids the bad be good, the weak be strong, the unjust be upright, and the unclean be pure. Wherever there is oppression, repression, and injustice, O God, Thine arm make bare and Thy holy will be done. Come Thou in a wonderful evolution in the thoughts, lives, and spirits of men. Lift the veil and let them catch the sight of the heights of life, the world, the unseen, and the eternal. Let Thy outstretched finger point out the climbing path ahead. So direct, so lead, so inspire us that we shall become gripped by the glory of service for our country, which protects our homes and secures our happiness. Amen.

Wednesday
March 7
1928

O LORD, OUR LORD, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth! who hast set Thy glory above the heavens. When I consider the heavens, the work of Thy fingers; the moon and the stars, which Thou hast ordained; what is man that Thou art mindful of him, and the son of man that Thou visitest him? For Thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor. Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of Thy hands; Thou has put all things under his feet. O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the earth. Amen.

Thursday
March 8
1928

Our Father and our God, through Thy bountiful mercy every morning is made new and every day is a new beginning. We praise Thee that there was never a night without a day, or an evening without a morning. Thou who givest all things freely, make this day radiant with faith, truth, loyalty, and courage. Teach us how to follow Thee and give us wisdom to guide us on. In all our intercourse with men we may be strong, pure, and noble. No permanent failures can ever be recorded in the annals of a truthful man. Oh, happy is he whose ambition is to be universally helpful and who enters into the fundamental conception of the very best life. Remember our homes, Heavenly Father, especially those who know the silent story, quivering through the heart of affliction. Oh, life—life has many a tangled crossing, and even our finest pleasures have many a break of woe. Wherever the shadows are lowering let them hear the echo, "He that overcometh shall inherit all things." Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday
March 9
1928

O throne of God, we seek the highway whose starry path our feet would press. Thou dost look over this wonder-teeming world every day—morning and evening—and all things are made new. Yet there is nothing higher than the soul is high; there is nothing wider than the heart is wide. A life in Thee is more powerful, more pervasive, and more durable than all the eye beholds, for space is nothing to spirit. Let this little prayer ascend to a throne of grace. O for a life in Thee—deep, boundless, and abundant. "Ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." There is nothing finer, vaster, and more glorious than the knowledge of God's truth. Let the bigness of our lives, the richness of our service root and blossom in Thee. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday
March 10
1928

O THOU who givest to all men liberally, diminish all evil desire and give mastering strength to the one impulse of pure love. The tender and the mighty God longs for us to have the best. Oh, how wonderful it is for us to have visions, how great it is to do, but the grandest of all is to be. O take the indifferent and the chilled hearts of men and warm them; take their determined wills and soften them. Banish all unworthy fear; and may every to-morrow bring them into a new and beautiful relationship with Thee. We must serve Thee before we can be glad. Turn our frailties into strength and our disobedience into loyalty. Let us hear the loving litany of the pilgrim's chant. Be before us, with us, and after us. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Sunday
March 11
1928

HOLY SPIRIT, help us to rise from the mist and gloom of human sorrow, to where we can almost see through the vistas to the upper world. Through the night and into the morning, while the veil hangs dark between, let not the bell be tolled; allow not the dirge of winter. Let it be rung and sound it forth from the distant hills. It strikes the tones of lengthened hope—the springtime of heaven. Arise, O Lord, on the breast of eternity and let us hear through the shadows the glad note of the day dawn: "Lo, it is I; be not afraid." We pause. There is no response to the call. One has been withdrawn from the sum of human existence. He has carried the burden and he leaves a song. This Chamber has witnessed his life filled with devotion to duty; here is the path he so faithfully trod. He never quenched a single taper that glowed on the human altar. Ah, this mortal has put on the glory of immortality. There shall be no night there; and they need no candle; neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light and they shall reign forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday March 12 1928

LORD, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God. Listen more to our unuttered longings, which can not be expressed, than to our words. Forgive the poverty, the littleness, and the unwisdom of our lives. Make us strong, courageous, and willing to bear the truth. We acknowledge our dependence; spare us from the delusion of endeavoring to hide ourselves from Thee. In loving remembrance regard our Speaker, the Members, the officers, the pages, and the employees of the House. Bless us all with the mercy of grateful hearts. Amen.

Tuesday March 13 1928

STILL, STILL WITH THEE, our blessed Father in heaven. At the break of a new day dawns the consciousness that Thou art still our refuge and strength. With our tendencies, our failures, and our sins, Thou dost never leave nor forsake us. Through the light of day and through the dark of night, when the sense of our beings is lost in sleep, Thou art our guardian angel. Hold before us and above our approaching footfall the light of Thy Holy Word: "Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord, and who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart." O help us especially in our unguarded moments. Give us faith in Thee that shall hold us strong, hope that shall keep us steadfast, and a love that shall make us a blessing to all. Amen.

Wednesday March 14 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, a thousand years in Thy sight are as yesterday when they are past. Persuade us that we must lay out our life plan on the scale of the Infinite. May we lean on faith, for Thou art our eternal refuge. We are silent and bewildered in the

presence of this fresh disaster which has befallen that fragrant land beneath our western skies. O help us to believe that God reigns; and though clouds and darkness are about Him, yet righteousness and truth are the habitations of His throne. Thou who didst weep beside the grave and whose tears fell at the sight of the burdened crowd, have mercy and give pity; do not leave the stricken ones comfortless. Take them in the ample folds of Thy love. Grant strength and courage to the living, peace to the dying, and eternal life to the departed. O Father of mercy, revive the fainting hearts, give vigor to the falling hands, and heavenly hope to the worn step and the wearied workers' stroke. In the name of our blessed Savior. Amen.

Thursday March 15 1928

OUR BLESSED, BLESSED FATHER IN HEAVEN, Thou dost put Thy shoulder under our burdens and givest help and support to every seeking heart. In our meditations, in our prayers, and in our labors may we turn to Thee with true discernment and with a living faith. We give Thee thanks and praise for Thy guiding hand along the pathway of life's pilgrimage. Impress us with the truth—ever old and ever new—of Thy goodness, the restful joys of repentance, and the wonderful rewards of obedience to Thy law, and the sweet satisfaction that blesses the life whose companionship is with Thee. Be our pillar of cloud by day and our pillar of fire by night, that we may wage successful warfare against the invasions of lust, self-indulgence, and lawlessness, and every fearful wrong which disfigures humanity and robs God. Amen.

Friday March 16 1928

OUR JEHOVAH FATHER, Thou art wisdom, Thou art love. Remember us, O Mighty One. Our hearts tremble at this petition. We would hide our souls from the dread vision of Thy holiness. Have

mercy upon us; remove our transgressions from us as far as the east is from the west. With every rising sun enable us to cancel the regrets of our yesterdays and concern ourselves with our to-days, and go forward to attain. Our deepest desire is that our thoughts, words, and deeds may stand the scrutiny of the broad day and sound true in every test. Holy Spirit, be with us and guide us, that our lives may be as honest in the dark as they are in the light; as good in obscurity as they are in publicity; as faithful when alone as when all the world is looking on. May we set our affections upon the dateless and the spaceless things of Thy kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday March 17 1928

We are deeply grateful, our Father of mercies, for the witnesses and leaders of Thy holy truth, who have recovered the broken purposes of men and their faltering faith and led them forth into the promised land of a blessed assurance. They have lighted the higher ideals on the altars of their souls. They flung aside as unworthy of reckoning the trials of earth and brought release, convoy, and guidance homeward. We praise Thee for the chivalry of soul and boundless faith of Ireland's patron saint. His mission and message, his character and life have become the inspiration of countless numbers who are now walking in the pathway of the Master. Inspire our humble lives with the same immovable conviction, fortitude, and sacrifice, that we, too, may hold aloft the threefold torchlight of faith, hope, and love. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday March 19 1928

Lord God of ages past, be with us yet lest we forget. We turn again to Thee for light and wisdom, that we with the entire body of our fellow citizens may continue to labor toward that destiny which has been given to our Republic. Forbid that

the flame of a fervent love for all that is glorious in our institutions should burn low. Arm us with the breastplate of righteousness and the shield of truth, that our priceless heritage may ever be preserved. As we meet the challenge of our day, be with us, that we may keep enthroned within the spirit of humanity, which is the gift of Heaven. Oh, every home needs happiness, every friend needs companionship, and every good cause needs encouragement. Stir the best things within us and around us, for these are dependent on Thee and the inspired teaching of Thy Holy Word. Amen.

Tuesday
March 20
1928

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, our lives are composed of just every days, and we need the presence of Him who lights dull eyes and makes tired hands strong. We pause, we listen: "Be still and know that I am God." Awaken in us a desire to return to this art of silent meditation, quietly seeking the imprint of Thy hand in life. Thy hand is seen in the story of the world's development, in the rise and fall of empires, and is a very real presence in human experience. O give us counsel, that we may be men who fear God and keep His commandments. Deepen our respect for truth, for honor, for our neighbor's good name, and for all agencies that transform earth's dishonor into heaven's glory. Set our wills upon a firm throne, so that we may go forward with a fixed purpose. Then nothing shall be done by impulse, but all things shall be done according to the best rule of wisdom. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
March 21
1928

O LORD, OUR LORD, Thou art love, and love resists definition. The undefinable God reveals Himself in a way which defies analysis. The sweetest passions of the human heart, multiplied by in-

finity, such is our blessed Heavenly Father. Hear us as we call. It is a solemn thing for us to enter this historic Chamber as servants of this wonderful Republic. Amid the stress and crash of change, unaffected by the losses of the past or the hopes of the future, here mighty men have raised their voices in fervent appeal; Thou wert with them. We thank Thee that the years make no change in Thy attitude; Thou art patient because Thou art eternal. As Thy hand was on the past it will be on the present. Our country stored and armed with education, wealth, and opportunity, do Thou fortify us with courage and wisdom and with all their noble strength, so that it shall never be proclaimed that we are false to our great trust or untrue to our great obligation. O let it never be said that the wisdom of to-day will be the error of to-morrow. Amen.

Thursday March 22 1928

All glory and praise be unto Thee, O Lord most high. Thou dost stoop to our needs and failures and fold us in the embrace of Thy love. Thy power and beauty are all about us. We walk Thy earth and are cheered by Thy presence. The allurements of sin, the voice of temptation are not so harsh and abrupt as to shut off and dull divine love. We thank Thee for the ministry of Thy mercy, for the service of Thy strength, and for the wonderful providence with which Thou dost encircle us. O God, be with us, that our sun may never set in a moral night. Stay our footfall that we may ever listen to wise public opinion, the maxims, the refinements, and the restraints which form the unwritten code of public conduct. We ask for prudence to trust where we can not see our way, to avoid danger, to heed the warning of wisdom, and to realize and enjoy the treasures of the soul which enrich human life, Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday
March 24
1928

O SPIRIT OF GOD, which once moved on the face of the waters, when order emerged from chaos, let us feel Thy rapture as we give ourselves up to Thy gentle guidance. The supremacy of Thy Holy Spirit is the inherent birthright of every man. Thy law, O God, makes a challenge, and we beseech Thee to make every day a solemn resolution which shall pay the homage that we owe to truth. By wise, unyielding devotion to the public weal, we shall crown the majesty of law, the greatness of our traditions, and the glory of the Republic. But infinitely more, may we exalt Thee in the moral terms of life and by our acceptance of Thy claims to our personal affection. Thy mercy has spared us, Thy bounty has blessed us, and may Thy grace elevate us! O we lift our drooping heads and forget our sins and our fears, because Thou art all-glorious and King above all. Amen.

Monday
March 26
1928

BLESSED, BLESSED LORD—the Father of us all—in Thee we have a refuge in every time of need. When temptation is nigh and human courage is at the test, Thou art near; when problems perplex and the way is uncertain, Thou dost help us to understand; when the clouds are lowering and earth's pathway is hard and forbidding, Thou art at our side to revive the fainting heart; even when the sky is radiant and there is no cloud to cast a shadow, Thou dost counsel wisdom. O we praise Thee that Thou dost come into the hearts of men, like a happy sunlight, and bid them rejoice and be glad. Whisper words to us to-day that shall teach us lessons of priceless worth. Give us the understanding heart that shall rebuke all wrong and that shall exalt the right. Bless our country, all the States, and all our firesides from border to border. May peace, happiness, and prosperity bless every room in our national mansion. As sons of God may we

arise in gratitude for all the blessings of life and may we know that there is nothing so royal as truth and there is nothing so kingly as love. Amen.

Tuesday March 27 1928

Glory be to Thee, O Lord most high; heaven and earth are filled with Thy glory, and praise becometh the upright in heart. All Thy works do praise Thee. The dawning of spring with its promise and hope brings Thee very near our responsive hearts. The bursting bud, the incipient bloom, the rapture of birds, the sun-kissed waters—these all tell of Thy glory. Do Thou help our souls to rise above the drab, leaden things of life, pushing their virtues upward through worldly pressure and shaping themselves mysteriously into the image of Thy dear Son. Make us tremendously ambitious for the simple gains and joys of human experience, with all their love, peace, and tenderness. The friendship of true friends, the laughter of little children, the sight of flowers, the strains of sweet music, and the heart talks of the hearthstone—bless us with these and we shall make no complaints. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday March 28 1928

Of all this wondrous world, O merciful Lord, Thou art the light and the life. The glow of the day and the starlit night are reflections from Thee. Before Thee there is not just one nation nor one people—all are Thine. Let no one look upon his fellow men with contempt. Bless us with a charity that includes all men, regardless of rank. Give us compassionate hearts, dear Father, that move with the sufferings and the misfortunes of others, and may we keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. Be at the doors of our souls all the day through; whispering to be pure and true is to succeed in life. We are happy that we are where we are; and do Thou help us to be faithful colaborers

with Thee for the sake of our country and for the blessing of humanity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday March 29 1928

O THOU who art the fairest among ten thousand, the Rose of Sharon, the Lily of the Valley, and the Bright and Morning Star, to Thee we come, for Thou art our redeemer and elder brother. Draw us into the harmonies of Thy law and into the blessings of Thy grace, that we may hear the whisper of truth and the appeal of duty. May our plain, common lives be responsive to Thy call and enriched by the glory of service. We thank Thee for difficult tasks, and even for severe disciplines, for we perceive the way of life lies here. Above everything else, our Father, make us like Thee. In all the conceptions of human life there can be no loftier ambition, no deeper desire, and no sublimer purpose. Being set with determined courage, calm with fathomless peace, let our lives shine forth in the transfiguring light of Christian citizenship. Hear our prayer for Jesus' sake. Amen.

Friday March 30 1928

BLESSED LORD, we are standing upon the threshold of a new day; it has come to us without a blemish; it is ours for good or ill. May we greet it with a smile, with a heart full of gratitude, and with a trust in Thy providence. Thou knowest how prone we are to falter. Thy strength and guidance can help us keep it spotless, so this day abide with us. Give us real power to forgive wrongs, to suffer woes, and to love and to bear. Subdue and mellow the flush of passion and bless us with unmeasured peace and wisdom. As we cherish the flower without the blight, so may we appreciate the virtues and the joys of checkered human life. O God, help us to be happy, contented, free, and fearless; then any wrong that beats against us shall be in vain. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday
March 31
1928

O Thou in whose mercy we behold the light of another day, be our safeguard and give us convincing proofs that Thou dost govern in the affairs of men. May we keep true to the tasks that await us and true to our God who has intrusted us with them. "Hosanna! Blessed is He who cometh in the name of the Lord!" O Conqueror, take possession of Thy kingdom. The royal road which Thou hast traveled will be traced by Thy children for ages to come. Lead on, O King Eternal. Thou art the corner stone of our faith; the clouds can only mantle at Thy feet. To erase Thy name from the memory of men would be to rend the moral foundations of the world. Beneath Thy footfall the old earth is destined to move sunward, and Thy cross shall be the standard for the fondest hopes that ever beat in the human breast. Oh, the voices of unnumbered generations shall tell of Thee as they pour their incense of praise at Thy feet. Holy, holy, holy, is our Lord! Amen.

Monday
April 2
1928

Again, O God, we take Thy holy name upon our lips; again we thank Thee for the riches of Thy mercy, and again we look up for the helpful consciousness of Thy presence. Our prayer is that we may not only be industrious, but that we may love industry; not only do the right things, but may enjoy the right things; not only pure, but that we may love purity. By the cords of infinite love bridge the pathless distance that stretches between Thee and Thy children. We praise Thee for all that Thou hast made. Oh, how wonderful for us to take some work of Thy creation and make it a little better and worthier; to make some human life wiser and happier. Oh, there is no other greatness. We thank Thee that Thou hast called us to be colaborers with Thee. If any have suffered the wrongs of injustice, let there be some forgotten

place, where no paths lead, and there in silence may all be buried; flood their hearts with peace, and evermore help them to hold their course to Thee. Amen.

Tuesday
April 3
1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, who wert and art and evermore shall be, bless us with all fullness of grace, might, and redemption. We are weak and full of doubts. Do Thou defend, guard, and be between them and our need. Never allow our steadfastness and confidence to abate. Overcome our fears, our tendencies, and our compromises, lest we be judged unfaithful to our sacred vows. Let no harsh or unwise word mar the good we might do here. In spite of old sins, old failures, and old sorrows, may all of us take new heart with this new day and begin again. We breathe our prayer of praise and gratitude to the God of our fathers.

We wonder what day of the week, we wonder what night of the year when the messenger shall call. He has come and one has answered the summons. He has fallen in the strength of his years. O God, we beseech Thee to bestow the blessings of peace and consolation upon all the sorrowing ones. So teach us to number the days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday
April 4
1928

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, we thank Thee for the new morning hours. In the joy of renewed strength and with glad hearts enable us to go forward unafraid and undisturbed. Through tasks faithfully performed, set free other of our highest and best impulses; may they be brought into splendid service. The blessing of a life lived wisely is not gold or jewels, but more life—broader use of our powers, a healthier capacity, and a larger use-

fulness. Now, our Father, we pray that we are all here to dedicate our gifts to Thee; let us come and go just as Thy children, to speak the truth and to do Thy will. Oh, true success is to labor; to travel hopefully and blessedly day by day is far better than to arrive. O fill our hearts with love, and then there shall be no place for hate; fill our minds with heaven, and then there shall be no place for hell; thus God shall be all in all. Bring us to the shades of evening, weary, though satisfied and not dishonored. Amen.

Thursday
April 5
1928

O Thou who didst not spare Thine only begotten Son, we would not implore Thee to withhold from us the valley of pain. There can not be an affliction so heavy nor an emergency so desperate but we shall have the support of the Father's hand. The world has seen every prospect blasted and consumed. In the garden, beneath a sky palled with tragedy, the Savior is at the portal to tread the wine press alone. The moment is hushed. Toil! Tears! Night! O God, forgive the iniquity of us all. We thank Thee that the seedtime of suffering will become the glorious harvest. In the valley of our sorrow Thou wilt help us to rise to the bright mount of prayer. Every life must have its Gethsemane. May we learn its lesson, acquire its discipline, and even kiss the chastening rod that smites us. In that hour of our weeping may the angels who comforted the Master whisper words of love and courage and minister peace. Oh, He who knocked at the door of our hearts and gave blessing; the One who stretched His arms to us when we were burdened, saying, "Come unto Me"; the One who stood by us in every dark hour, when the waves ran high and the night was dark—Oh, this is the Christ who shall be our King and our Lord, and in the sunshine of whose face we shall abide forever. Amen.

Friday
April 6
1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, hear our prayer. He was wounded for our transgressions; He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement of our peace was upon Him, and with His stripes we are healed. As we stand in hushed silence before His cross we feel the nightly stillness of the world's winter; we turn pale with the sense of something fearful. Like a fountain of fire, cruelty has broken loose and every word burns with hate. Thou, God, have mercy, for the earth is cursed by the hopes it has wasted and by the truth it has outraged. Hearken unto the voice of our cry and consider our meditation, for great is our fall, demoralized is our condition, and without Thee our thralldom is complete. Our souls wait in the solemnity of these moments. O hear us; whatever this life may bring us, may it never take from us the full faith that Thou art our Savior. On Calvary's cross is the expression of our utmost need and our utmost hope. Set it up in all our breasts and reign there in the fullness of Thy grace; then life and the long forever shall be our inheritance. Thou Christ! Mary's Holy Child! From beyond the limits of the worlds Thou shalt come again on eternity's high day, clothed with infinite glory. Amen.

Monday
April 9
1928

HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou knowest our frame and art touched with a feeling of our infirmities; Thou dost condescend to hear our prayer. In some strange way the storm winds and the port are friends. Do Thou touch the eternal in us. Awaken in us the deepest concern to feel Thy presence, to be stirred by Thy truth, to have faith in the unseen, and to follow the aspiration to leap over the boundary of time. Devoid of these, we may yield to that which destroys character, defeats progress, and forbids happiness. Whatever the exactions of each day may be, teach us to be patient and zealous. Come with us, bless us, and help us to dignify

common toil and to consecrate the hard, homely things of life, and to pass on to others sweet charity and cloudless hope. Through Christ. Amen.

Tuesday April 10 1928

O Lord God, our Heavenly Father, Thou art always stooping and writing on the ground, even when we see Thee not. Have mercy according to Thy great mercy. Thou dost forgive our pride, our false ambitions, and even our secret faults. We thank Thee that Thou dost bless us with the mercy of forgiveness. Do Thou banish our doubts, sanctify our sufferings, lighten our darkness, conquer our fears, and immortalize our hopes. Lead us to put supreme faith in all Christian institutions, and never allow the clock of progress to be turned back. Great problems are asking for solution. May our badge indicate always that we shall not permit the foundations of righteousness and justice to be vitiated. Holy Spirit, teach us our duty to God and man, and speak over the troubled world the holy words of peace and pardon. Amen.

Wednesday April 11 1928

This day is for us, our Heavenly Father. What shall we give it? So often we make this life of ours vague, difficult, and mysterious. We ask Thee to quicken every pulse in us to aspire that we may justly claim the glorious right to live. Help us to guard its hours as valued treasures and give to it a good name, which is above every other gift. It is not just what we do that constitutes the best benefactions to our fellow citizens, but what we are. Pour into our lives Thy Holy Spirit and bless us with the deepest calm and courage. If sorrow is our portion, may we keep the faith; if temptation is beckoning, may we keep the faith; if the skies are forbidding and the pathway is hard, may we keep the faith; when all truth seems dead or lost, O may we keep the faith. When the evening comes and we

look back across the hours between dawn and dark, bless us with this satisfaction, because of some good word or work the world is better that we have lived to-day. In the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Thursday April 12 1928

HOLY SPIRIT, the most helpful blessing that Thou canst bestow upon us is an understanding heart. It gives to daily life wisdom, charity, and creates the spirit of fraternity; it blesses the humblest and touches the greatest; it discovers a higher and finer application of Thy precepts. With Thy presence our faith is no longer dim, but our hearts are strong and restful. O hear, not so much our words but our unuttered feelings, for they are far, far beyond the birth of a dream. Brighten all the joys of life, soften every frown, and make us kind and brave and true. As we hear life's manifest call, may it not fall in vain on ears that never hear, but let its high meaning bend our purposes out of love in true and pure hearts. Help us to be the men we meant to be and prize our country over wealth and power. Blessed Lord, enter every aspect of our private and public life. Amen.

Friday April 13 1928

O THOU who didst teach that all men are sons of God and brothers in Him, and that there should not be cruel divisions and inequalities among them, Thy holy will be done throughout the earth. Praise comes to our lips because of the memory of the past—the past with its vicissitudes, its triumphs, its defeats, and its haunting risk of accident. Yet in Thy providence we have been kept by the strange mystery of Thy mercy. Our hearts turn to Thee in the deepest gratitude. The light of Thy love which lights up the book of life will continue to shine upon its future pages; Thou wilt go with us all the way. He who counts the sands and sets the prisoners free says to all hearts that are hungering through life, "Fear not, for I am with thee." Remember Thou

these Representatives of the people, who are associated in service for the Republic. Let Heaven's choicest benedictions rest upon them and their homes. May all their decisions spring from balanced judgments, wisdom, and from a genuine sympathy for all men. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday April 14 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Thy purpose for this world is the development of man; all creation is engaged in this redeeming task. Let us not despise the lowest of Thy creatures, nor lose the glory and the worth of humble service and simple things. The divine at the heart of the universe keeps working away at the divine in man, and one day, like the prophet of old, he will be lifted up out of his ignorance and sin into the light of a more perfect day. Amid commotions and uncertainties, Thou art the preserver of all good; we therefore praise Thee. May our laws and institutions be molded by great Christian ideals, and always remain as the inspiration of our fellow citizens, for they are the architects and the builders of our Republic. Amen.

Monday April 16 1928

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, Thou who art without the birth of dawn or the death of dark, because of grateful memories we are encouraged to approach Thee. Thou art the pledge of all our joys and the surety of all our hopes. Take our wills, renew their strength, and blend them with Thine. Reclaim us from any ways of wrong, and under the gentle pressure of Thy Holy Spirit bless us with the heart that forgives; may hate never become the fatal weakness of our characters. Deaden our fears and lighten our hearts and take us by the hand and lead us on. Should evil approach, may we overcome it with good, and know that this kind of life can do everything else but fail. In the Master's name. Amen.

Tuesday
April 17
1928

O LORD OUR GOD, this is the moment of soul silence, and we beseech Thee to hear us. We thank Thee for the mercy of a new day. Bless each one of us with the mercy of a grateful heart. There are many perils of which we are ignorant and many which we perceive. We can not understand Thy providence, yet we repose our faith in Thee, for Thy abundance overflows and transcends all our needs. Grant that all things base, cruel, inhuman, vain, and ignorant shall lose their power and die away; and may all things pure, upright, ennobling, and enriching grow and gather strength until righteousness and knowledge shall prevail throughout our fair land and the glory of the Lord shall fill the whole earth. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
April 18
1928

O THOU who art our ever-blessed Heavenly Father, the manliest act that we can do is the uplook of our lives to the eternal, the drinking of our souls at the fountain of life, the kneeling of ourselves in humility in which we can be exalted in the sight of God! O it is the rapture of a golden day without a dark outline! O great lamp of life, radiate from the heights of Thy holy hill; O light that falls from the upper world, shine on our country; O voice of God, speak to the people, for only Thou art holy! Not for our salvation, not for our personal exaltation. These are not the motives why we desire to be pure, faithful, strong, upright men. It is that we may have a place in the great army of God and go forward, having something to do with the work that is destined to preserve our country and bless all humanity. Hear us, blessed Lord. Amen.

Thursday
April 19
1928

BLESSED BE THY HOLY NAME, O Lord most high, for Thou dost not look down upon us as one who dwells in the supremacy of might, but as a Father who is pleased to abide with His children in redeem-

ing love. We thank Thee for this disclosure of the divine nature. When we are faint, Thy healing balm is near; when we are weary, Thy staff gives support; when we stumble, Thy right hand is nigh to lift us up. Give wisdom and counsel to the deliberations of this day. May all our homes be under the shadow of divine love. If any have great burdens or sharp cares, if any feel the pressure of a thorn or the weight of a cross, O minister unto them, by which they shall have great comfort and sweet peace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

OUR BLESSED LORD, out of the depths of our conscious need and out of our deepest gratitude we would pray, never leave or forsake us. Bless us with that deep experience of the soul that can not be measured, and help us to that peace that no human mind has ever understood. Lead us to that love whose depths no mortal heart has ever sounded, and to that joy that no earthly lip has ever expressed. All along the pathway that awaits our footfall, may every mountain be brought low and every valley raised up and every rough place made plain. May our mornings and our evenings bring to us satisfaction because of work well done. Raise us to a plane where the losses and the crosses of life are exalted and where the beatitude of our Heavenly Father rests upon us. In the holy name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday April 20 1928

THE LORD GOD is a sun and shield; no good thing will He withhold from them that walk uprightly. At the call of this day do Thou make goodness and gladness the aroma of our conduct; bless us with a realization of Thy presence and crown our labors with success. Qualify us in those virtues that make for personal rectitude and stability of government, and give us the blessing of a mind that sees and of a heart that feels. Persuade us that purity is

Saturday April 21 1928

never so divine as when it appeals to the impure; that strength is never so courageous as when it helps the weak, and wisdom is never so learned as when it instructs the ignorant. When the experiences of life come hard and the head is bowed and the heart is heavy, gracious Lord, bestow sweet peace. Amen.

Monday April 23 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, as we pause and meditate, the seriousness and the joy of life are revealed. Oh, what is man in the presence of such infinite majesty? We thank Thee that he is soul-destined to live through the eternities, for surely the kingdom of God is within him. We praise Thee for the immortal symphonies which invite us on; for the springtime of hope, which blesses us with the reflection of the unknown world. O Thy love and mercy surround us as we face the nightless dawn. For the memories that make life sweet and for the gentle compulsion that lures us onward we bless Thee. Inspire us this day with a high sense of duty and with a very certain, directive wisdom. In all things help us to work worthily of our origin, calling, and destiny. In the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday April 24 1928

HOLY SPIRIT, faithful guide, in the quiet of these moments may our relationship be solemnized. The language of our breath is "Holy, holy, holy!" Forbid that we should ever take Thy name in vain, the only name in heaven and earth. Clothe us with the garment of strength without the sense of toil and with the spirit of service without the sense of hardship. Dwell in all our hearts, so there shall be a union of might and weakness, of day and night, and then our human frailties shall be blessed with power divine. Lift up our whole country and strengthen it in peace and concord. O sun of righteousness, arise with healing in Thy beams, for there are so many

waiting for Thy touch. When the day closes, turn weariness into relaxation and give the blessing of rest. Amen.

Wednesday April 25 1928

Our Father in heaven, the light of this day and the silent watches of the night are evidences of Thy mercy. Bless us with vigor of mind and strength of body, and in manly courage we shall persevere in the things that are just and right. Guard us from all evil; make a way where there is no path; and if the shadows thicken, let the pressure of Thy hand be tenderest. We thank Thee for the warm, tender joys of life, for good friends, for the happiness of the hearthstone, and for the old earth, whose soil our feet would love to press for a thousand years to come. Keep us looking upward, even unto the heights, beyond whose cliffs eternal rest abides. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday April 26 1928

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Just now may there be an altar in every breast and at each altar a bowed soul breathing the spirit of devotion, confession, and thanksgiving. Here may our thoughts and purposes receive their sustaining power, and thus shall our ministrations be raised to higher efficiency. O God of love, upon our hearts is the memory of Him who sailed afar from home and country, forgetting that He was weary and wayworn. His heart was tuned not to the broken noises of earth but to the rhythm of the divine law of brotherhood. We had been bending our ears to hear the coming song of deliverance. But alas! alas! now is brooding the minor strain of the eternal order. O harbinger, human and divine! He has outridden the clouds and storms, and His sun which has set at high noon has arisen to the height of endless day. Amid the fates that gape to swallow up our loves, we praise Thee for that love

that gathers up the raveled friendships of time and makes whole again the rents of earth. God abide with the afflicted and sorrowing ones. Amen.

Friday April 27 1928

O LORD GOD OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, with new understanding and firmer assurance let us be summoned to our duties to-day. Passionate loyalty, springing from implicit faith that right makes might, is the power that lifts the world into the respect of angels and the love of God. We thank Thee that Thou art taught as Father and love as life's law; hence we would listen to Thy teachings and cherish Thy words as a precious heritage. There is no end to Thy loving purpose. There is a sea of blessedness, countless fathoms deep; undergirding the old earth is the arm of Thy never-failing mercy. O guide us when we can not see, comfort us when we are sad, deliver us when we are threatened, help us when we are weak, and when all is over save us. In the presence of error—aye, when in the shadow of the strongholds of sin—inspire us to throw down the challenge. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Saturday April 28 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, a strange, mysterious, yet merciful guest has fixed this day. The shadow of death has fallen across our common path. O in the hope and glory of Thy promise let these moments whisper unto us as they pass by. We thank Thee that the resources of our wearied lives are in the heavenly regions, where the dreams of love and faith come true. We would brush aside the shadow of distress with the heart of a child who sees his father's face and breathe the vigor of the everlasting hills. We silently wait; do Thou quiet the restless pulse of care. The air is chilled; a familiar voice is unheard; a prince among men has fallen. We thank Thee for such a

life given to the Republic, for its genius and for its potencies—aye, for a life that walked in the pride of personal honor. As we meditate upon his memory, his fortitude, his unselfish love for country and for all men, grant us Thy benediction. Reach forth Thy arm of infinite love and encircle those who sorrow. Over the sea and through the storm may they see Thy face and hold Thy hand. When we have passed through the afternoon of life and face the sunset skies, O may the morning skies scatter the shadows and let it be daylight everywhere. Amen.

Sunday April 29 1928

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy Holy Name. Amen.

The Late Representative Madden

memorial services

The Chaplain of the House offered the following prayer:

There shall be no night there. Weird loneliness and awful silence are broken as our hearts move on through the stillness at the bidding of the voice divine. "O grave, where is thy victory?" Through its gloom and anguish our faith arises and we feel ourselves immortal. O God, we thank Thee for this great soul who has fallen amid his earthly labor and glory. How great are Thy mysteries and how inscrutable are Thy ways, yet Thy voice is heard. It is heard in solemn warning; it is heard in sweet encouragement to virtue; it is heard in the monitions of conscience and in the aspirations of our better natures. In all these ways Thou dost come to us with the sacred message of wisdom and

love. He has left us blessed memory. His heights of thought were the hilltops of the common heart. His broad philanthropy reached over all classes with revealing benediction. His loftiness of patriotism fell upon the ears of the reluctant and stupid and summoned them to higher plane. His great nature touched poverty, toil, wealth, and station and took away their curse. We praise Thee for this statesman whose conscience was ever the pilot of his reason. Heavenly Father of love and mercy, no one but Thou canst know the pain that weighs upon her; as wife and mother, she conceals the grief in her pure, holy breast. His common lot, sorrows and joys she shared and blessed him with the ascending power of angelic devotion. God bestow great comfort upon her and all members of the hearthstone. Help us all to rise above tempest and storm into the upper air of spiritual outlook, where there are palaces not made with hands and crowns of glory that never fade away. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday
May 2
1928

AGAIN, OUR BLESSED HEAVENLY FATHER, the clouds hang low and the shadows, dull and dreary, fall on our reluctant path. We wonder what day of the week, we wonder what night of the year when our idols of earth shall shatter and we shall know just what the human heart has to bear. Our brother and friend, the conscientious and capable servant of state, has closed his eyes in death and gone out in silence. Oh, God is God, and somehow, some way, His plans will work out, and he who does his best shall never mourn in vain. The heart-stricken family! Oh, the deep fountains of grief from which their sorrows flow! O be with them, dear Lord, as their mute hearts go out to Thee and as their feet are summoned to tread a way so hard and lonely. Comfort their poor, sick hearts and take them to Thy breast. Amen.

Thursday May 3 1928

O sweet is the truth, dear Father, that Thou givest us. Through shortsighted vision, the way is often uncertain; let us trust Thee. When we least expect it, Thou art near. There always comes a rift in the cloud, and faith grasps a new courage and we repossess our souls. Again we would strike eternal covenant with Thee. Reconcile our wills with Thy will and our hearts with Thy heart; then what beautiful harmony there shall be! How determined and vitalized our decisions shall be as this union regulates our thoughts! However numerous our contests, however aggressive their devices, and however vigorous they may be, O Lord, bless us with a multiplied sense of courageous faith and charity, understanding, and wisdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Sunday May 6 1928

O Thou who art at the right hand of the Father, be with us; root and ground us in unchangeable truth. Lighten the burdens of the heavy laden and lift the loads of the overburdened and soothe all hearts that feel the hurts of life. Let us be patient in the presence of sorrow, because oftentimes the divinest benedictions assume the darkest disguise. O God, again death has entered the Chamber and beclouded our way. Make us aware of Thy consoling presence. Reveal Thyself unto us and hallow all our experiences. Be Thou the light in darkness, an assurance in affliction, and an inspiration in every condition. Providence has laid a heavy hand upon us; to the realms of love one has taken his departure. A faithful servant of the people and a sincere councilor was he. Sweet peace to his ashes and heavenly rest to his soul. Give us courage to close the gap and to move forward at Thy call, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday May 7 1928

Again, our dear Heavenly Father, our eyes are open to the wide reaches of the impartial love of Thy providence. We thank Thee for the outlook

of the day and week. Help us to bring buoyant hearts and minds to our tasks. Impress us that it is always best to seek the best and do the best. Faithfulness to principle is essential to Thy favor and to the esteem of our fellows. Direct us by Thy wisdom; give us courage to conquer every temptation and strength to rise above every failure. Keep us this day in the folds of Thy benediction, which is truth, righteousness, and peace. Amen.

Tuesday
May 8
1928

BLESSED LORD AND MASTER, Thy bountiful mercy is our hope and trust. We are here not in our own strength but through the loving-kindness and condescension of our Heavenly Father. Each day Thou dost set the marks of loveliness upon the face of Thy creation. Unto us do Thou send forth Thy light, that we may fulfill the measure of duty that is made plain to us. Enrich us with the fruitful joys of the Christian's faith; may they be our shield and our defense. Redeem our country from enmities and jealousies. Shadow it everywhere with the sweet, gracious sentiment of brotherhood. Teach us that the lasting treasure of life is the presence of Him who quiets all alarms and stills the soul with heavenly peace. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday
May 9
1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Father of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, who art the glory of day and the master of night, let the light of Thy truth and wisdom illuminate our minds, and may it clear away all prejudice, misconception, and ignorance. May we humbly appreciate the great honor which has been assigned to us in the service of the Republic, and to labor for the welfare of our fellows. In every relationship may we be wise men and beneficent servants of the country. Allow nothing to stand

between our convictions and obedience. Be Thou the security of our best desires and purest loves. Amen.

Thursday May 10 1928

O Thou who art all in all, Thou art such a merciful Father, for height nor depth, nor any other creature shall be able to separate us from the love of God. O give us an outburst of faith with the assurance that nothing can defeat divine care and divine compassion; we shall wonder then at the richness of life that shall come to us. Chasten all desire and graciously help us to know ourselves and Thy purpose concerning us. Give us wise views of the needs of our country and renew our strength and hope in all good things. Continue, blessed Lord, to establish us in all those virtues and in the love of that truth as taught by the Teacher of Nazareth. In His blessed name. Amen.

Friday May 11 1928

Holy, true, and merciful Lord, Thou dost always keep in remembrance Thy gracious promise, namely, "I will never leave nor forsake thee." O God of our fathers, withhold not Thy presence from our beloved land. Come Thou to all the children of men and put a new face on this weary old earth, and the power of intellect and the skill of genius shall be superseded by the holy Babe of Bethlehem. Oh, that all men would be lovers, diligent and faithful, patient and hopeful, justifying their presence in the world. It is our mission and our glory. O teach us that blessed is the man who is guided along this way. In the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Saturday May 12 1928

We praise Thee, O God, our Heavenly Father, that there is a day in our Nation's calendar dedicated to holy motherhood. To-morrow we shall wear in her memory the beautiful flower, as from its depths is reflected the heavenly purity of

her divine soul. O God, from her came our first pulse beat; her angel arms were our first cradle; at her knees she first formed our hands in prayer; from her trembling lips God's word first fell like a divine presence, felt and seen; through the years of our helplessness she gave us our first stir of might. How she poured into our wonder minds the ways of life! And as long as her lips were untouched by death she prayed for her child. Oh, her prayers were as holy incense lifting from the altar of her soul. Blessed Lord, even at eternity's gate her face gleams like a star on the breast of night, waiting for the home-coming of her own. Help us so to live that the beautiful spirit of motherhood shall blossom everywhere and bring forth fruits of noble deeds and holy living. O tell us, Father, that the nation that desires eternity must exalt maternity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday May 14 1928

O LORD, we are all debtors to Thee for Thy continual goodness; hence we are inspired with a sense of thanksgiving and praise. How wonderful art Thou and yet how gentle! O may we behold wondrous things out of Thy law. Give to our understanding clear vision, that we may discern wisely Thy will concerning our public and private obligations. In the midst of the days remember mercy. May the secrets of our energy be in Thy wisdom and constraining love. Fill our memories with the sweetest and the best and the purest in our lives. Through all the light and through all the dark, be with us. Amen.

Tuesday May 15 1928

INFINITE GOD, attend our prayer as we praise Thee for the divine light that falls upon our pathway. May this providence stir in us the virtue of gratitude. Let Thy presence consecrate our labors, give support to those who bear burdens, and sustain all

when the light burns low. We thank Thee that Thou wilt never cause us a needless tear. O lead us to ever open our hearts to the great source of divine help. Be Thou with this generation of men. Shield all hearts from the arch prince of hate, whose vicious passions fall like daggers upon Thy innocent children. Keep the heart, the mind, and the very soul of our country from all things that profane God, and may purity, honor, and Christian chivalry be the blossoms that shall forever lie on her fair brow. In the name of the Son of Man. Amen.

Wednesday May 16 1928

O Spirit of the Most High God, this is a solemn moment. We believe that the impulse which we have to offer Thee our praise is Thy voice within, so we turn to that throne which is forever glorified by our Savior's death. Father in heaven, magnify Thyself in our hearts and deeds. Enable us to covet the best things and treasure them. May we set ourselves toward this day with happy hearts, glad faces, and new desires. God help us to love the little child, the mother's prayer, and the beggar's soul. With ready hearts and willing hands, may we help the old world along and look not with disdain upon the truants who are far from home and heaven. Hear us for Thy blessing upon the land we love best, and be our refuge and everlasting friend. Amen.

Thursday May 17 1928

We would say, Still, still with Thee, O Father of mercies! The hand that holds the earth, the sky, and the sea is the same that holds all earthly children in its palm. This new day finds us unafraid, and may we come to it with renewed vigor. Keep before us life's richest vocation and heaven's highest attainment. On the altars of our hearts make steadfast the sacred lights of faith, hope, and charity, and may they burn there with a quench-

less flame. O let Thy blessing, so abundant, so free, and so divine, abide with all who are associated with this Chamber. Be with our families and all our earthly loves. In that solemn, silent moment, when earth and time yield to heaven and eternity, may the golden light break from behind the everlasting hills. Amen.

Friday
May 18
1928

AGAIN, O LORD OUR GOD, the morning light has broken and Thy mercy embraces all, because Thou dost see and understand. From day to day Thou dost make known Thy loving-kindness, which blesses us with quiet-hearted trust. Teach us that the richest treasures of life are invisible and Thy supreme revelation is to the human heart. Thy greatest gifts can not be weighed, measured, nor counted. Do Thou spare us from the pride which is the root of sin and endow us with that humility which is the beginning of every virtue. Rebuke all unrighteous conflict throughout our country and reproach all selfishness, which is the poison that blights the flower of human happiness. Persuade us that he who forgives most shall be most forgiven. In the name of our Savior we pray. Amen.

Monday
May 21
1928

WE OFFER THEE our grateful word of prayer, our Father in heaven, for love and mercy crown our existence each succeeding day. It is so marvelous that nothing can chill Thy divine care toward us. Night and day, day and night, Thou dost anticipate all our needs. Do Thou strengthen us with the cloudless sky of faith, and may there issue from our lives a song of praise as sweet as a vesper chime. As Thou dost give us our little day in this dear old wonderful world, any kindness that we may do, any burdens that we may lift, any paths that we may smooth, O let us not neglect it. This day, so short and so soon gone, will be only a memory to-

morrow. May we do ourselves no wrong. Keep us, hold us, bless us in the springtime of Thy eternal promise. Amen.

Tuesday May 22 1928

Lord God of Hosts, while the days of our pilgrimage are hurrying by, we thank Thee that Thy merciful providence is attending us. We have beating human hearts that laugh and weep and help us to give daily gladness as we pass by. Bless us with wit to work and with faith to keep us brave and true. Lift all of us above the corroding vices of weakness and fear, for at times they crush our hopes until they bleed. Give us hearts that pass on the praise of Him to those who feel the arrows of distress. Enable us to bear the yoke of service without complaint and to perform our duty in the spirit of a high privilege. When we falter or fail hold us with Thy gentle hand. When sorrow shades the skies of blue let in the azure, that it may gleam once more above the heads on this journey road. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday May 23 1928

Our Father of mercies, Thou art the true source and rule for our essential and practical lives. For all that Thou hast wrought of comfort, of peace, and warmth of heart we thank Thee. Forgive our feverish anxieties, our inconstant wills that render duty a sluggish burden. Bless us with minds calmed and fortified by moments of withdrawal which permit God to speak to our souls. Let us fold away old sorrows, old doubts, and old conflicts; let them leave a slight memory while we share the more blessed things of life. Touch the divine which is imprisoned in every breast and bring to life its trembling note, and may we hear the song that was meant to be. Shield our country against all wrong and injustice, and may it always be a defender of the helpless, an example for the oppressed, and a Christian light for all the world. Amen.

Thursday
May 24
1928

OUT OF THE DARK OF THE NIGHT have come the radiance and the promise of the day. We praise Thee, O Lord, for Thou art the source of all our earthly hopes. Thy plans unfold like the springtime blossoms that reveal hidden beauty and wonder. Hold us to patient service, so that conscience may never censure. As we look up, aspire, and resolve, let us count it grandly true that these are not in vain. They lift us up from the maze of just things, where the throng is not dense and the touch is not rough. Come, Father of love, to all our homes, and keep them in tune with the things that are divinely beautiful. Then shall we come and go like happy children playing among the flowers. Bless us with a living, glowing joy that shall never fade away. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday
May 25
1928

BREATHE ON US, O BREATH OF GOD, as we tarry in Thy holy presence. Life and time will pass by, but Thy love alone shall last forever. We would not allow ourselves to complain; waves of emotion course through our breasts as we think of Thy providence that leads us on to perfect happiness and to the dawn of everlasting life. As the old sun will pierce the thickest cloud, so clear and safe is the new light and the new life of this pain-throbbed world. The cross of the Master, bathed in the glory of a perfect day, turns the hearts of men. It draws to it the storm-beaten faces of earth, for its empire is the empire of the oppressed, the bereaved, and the broken-hearted. Put Thy hand upon the life and the destiny of our Republic. Keep it there until all hate is dissolved, all bigotry dies away, and all unjust scepters are broken. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth. Amen.

Saturday
May 26
1928

O SPIRIT OF THE MOST HIGH, come with us that we may not forget Thee and the lessons of life. Through them all run Thy plan and purpose which

Thou hast ordained. We suffer that we may achieve, we fail that we may strive, we weep that we may know the joy of laughter, and we doubt that we may think. We thank Thee for every sentiment and for every agency that work for the unity of our fellow citizens; we praise Thee for every discovery in the realms of human endeavor that blesses and uplifts the races of men. Holy Spirit, crowd out of our beings all prejudice and evil desire, that we may hasten the day when all men shall be brothers. Let the skies of the world be cleared and all ominous clouds rifted, and let the altars of the Prince of Peace be compassed by the peoples of the earth. This day may we make gains in wisdom, in knowledge, in forbearance, and self-control. At its close may we rest calmly in the secret of Thy presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday
May 28
1928

O Thou who art the source of all life and the giver of all that makes it worth while, hear our prayer. Do Thou help us to see through our sorrow and to know Thee through the subtle processes of our hearts. Father in heaven, Thou, who didst not spare Thine only begotten Son, we can not ask Thee to withhold us from the dark of Gethsemane. Sheltered and unafraid, as we tarry there, we would bear the rod with its chastening stroke. The Lord look upon us as we declare our faith in Him who is the resurrection and the life. He has glorified the tomb and has made His cross the headstone of every grave in the dust of mother earth. A splendid oak of the highlands has fallen and our hearts are sore. In him was no guile; his hand was never extended in infidelity; his was a great heart and an honest mind. He was so constant in his labors, so just in his decisions, so manly in his bearing that we would keep in sacred memory his moral grandeur. Yes, he wore truth upon his brow and kept falsehood under his feet. Father, console the sorrowing ones with the tenderest care. Abide with

these his honorable colleagues and keep them in that wonderful peace that passeth understanding. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE LATE REPRESENTATIVE THOMAS S. BUTLER

MEMORIAL SERVICES

Mr. TILSON. Mr. Speaker, to-day in Pennsylvania is being laid to its last rest the body of one of our most beloved Members, the late Representative THOMAS S. BUTLER. This is the exact hour fixed for the funeral, 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon. As a mark of respect to his memory, I ask unanimous consent that the House now pause in its deliberations, and that the Chaplain be asked to lead us in prayer.

The SPEAKER. Without objection it will be so ordered.

There was no objection.

Tuesday May 29 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, Father of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Thou art our Father and we are Thy children. Thou wilt surely hear us when we call and answer us when we pray. We lift our eyes unto the hills whence cometh our strength. Do Thou arrest our minds and stay our deliberations as we pause and meditate upon the brevity and uncertainty of life. In this consciousness we praise Thee that Christ our Savior has become the first fruits of them that sleep. As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive again.

We ask Thy consoling blessing upon the sorrowing ones to-day. Be there as well as here and here as well as there. O Lord, help us in our limitations, pity us in our weakness, pity us in our frailties, pity us in our tendencies, pity us in our sins, pity us in the moment of death, and catch us when we fall. Abide with all of us in the measure of a great peace. Grant, O God, that the memory of Mr. Butler may be held as a sacred memory in our lives. His stabil-

ity, his conscientiousness, his manly bearing, his just decisions are all virtues worthy of our emulation. The workman dies, but the work goes on forever.

Now, as we are on the very verge of the last moments of this session, Thou God of infinite mercy abide with all of us in the measure of a great peace, and as we move forward, and as the summer months pass by, may no plague come nigh our dwellings. Give wisdom to direct us; bless us with mercy to make us considerate of our fellows; and, Heavenly Father, regard us always in divine favor, and at the last, when one door is closing, may another door open; when earth begins to recede, may the skies eternal appear and lead us up the stairway through the darkness to the Father's house, to the Father's arms, to the Father's breast, to the Father's heart, to the Father's home, and we shall go out no more forever.

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: He leadeth me beside the still waters.

He restoreth my soul: He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

Second Session

Monday December 3 1928

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY, LORD GOD OF HOSTS, Thou art the light of the world and the source of all wisdom. Thy goodness and mercy have followed us until our latest breath. We, therefore, praise Thee. Have compassion on us in our failures; pity us and forgive our sins. We pray for a continuance of Thy minis-

trations unto the Republic. With patriotic zeal and unselfish devotion help us to reach those altitudes where we shall hear that clarion voice of duty which inspired a government "conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal." In these Thy servants unfold the fundamentals of truth. Spiritualize their thoughts, that they in all things may disclose the counsels of God. O be unspeakably good and divinely near them, that they may stand forth among the sons of men consecrated to the greatest good of humanity. Do Thou preserve the strength of their minds and the vigor of their bodies. We are most humbly grateful for our beloved country. We thank Thee for its manifold material blessings; but do Thou lift it to an outlook from which all of our citizens shall see more than mere matter and realize the real values of the soul. Create in us the sincerest convictions as to the need and the peace of the world. O Spirit of the Most High, give wisdom and courage to our President and to all his immediate associates. Use their powers, ideals, and visions that inspire, protect, and safeguard the happiness and the prosperity of our people. Bless our homes and make in them an atmosphere warm and congenial, in which the delicate flowers of faith, hope, and love shall unfold their sweetest bloom and beauty. O teach us that no one can have Thee for a Father without having man for a brother. Keep us, O God, in the shadow of Thy presence until the fountain of human effort has emptied its last drop of service into the heavenly river of divine joy. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday
December 4
1928

O THOU whose heavenly bounty blesses our lives with each succeeding day, with humble praise and thanksgiving we wait in Thy holy presence. Thy providence is a pledge that Thou dost love us and art determined to save us to the end. Increase

our knowledge of the right and the power of decision that we may love that larger life that ever seeks to serve Thee and all humankind. Lead us to return to the days of simplicity and become as little children in humility, in tenderness, and in disinterested trust. Do Thou make the labors of this Congress compelling and effective to the ends of our land. As we have inherited the vast benefits of those who have gone before, the good Lord forbid that we should make mock of their sacrificial toil. Heavenly Father, lift us far above all blame and all need of praise. In the blessed name of the world's Redeemer. Amen.

Wednesday December 5 1928

Our Father God, we pray that Thou wilt open our eyes that we may all see the glory of Thy manifold works. It is Thy will and desire that we shall walk in ceaseless surprise; that at every turning of the way we should discover unexpected glimpses of our God. Father in heaven, we want our common lives elevated and made even sublime. If there is any Member fearing the morrow and wishing the morning would never come; if there is one who has passed into a shadow, or bewilderment, or perplexity, the blessed Lord give him quietness and calmness of spirit. Let Thy benediction come to our Speaker, all Members, and officers. When the day is ended, bless us all with quieting consciousness that we have been in the presence of our God. Amen.

Thursday December 6 1928

O God our Heavenly Father, if we have taken our daily bread and it brought us no message; if we have enjoyed a night's rest and we are not grateful; if we have received encouraging news and we are not more hallowed; if we have had enjoyment and have failed to see Thee, O Lord, forgive us and open our eyes now. Make of these blessings a glorious ministry and send us on our way and

make it glow with Thy presence. O may we see Thee in the creation, preservation, and in the redemption of the great, wide world. May we know Thee in the nearness and sanctity of true friendship. The power of God is on the side of him who battles for truth's sake. Glory be to Thy holy name. Amen.

Friday
December 7
1928

O FATHER OF LOVE AND FATHER OF MERCY, how unsearchable are Thy riches; and they are past finding out. The whole realm of truth reechoes with the praise of our God. We thank Thee for the glory of the morning and for the radiance with which the firmament is filled, but especially do we bless Thee that in the glory of that light we discern the presence of the Lord. We ask that we may ever have the spirit of reverence by which these wonders may be opened to our gaze. Thou Merciful One, to whom all power, space, and wisdom belongeth, possess our minds and hearts to-day, that our conduct may be ordered by purposes that are pure, by aspirations that are uplifting, and by acts that are just. Let Thy Holy Spirit, dear Lord, harmonize our very beings with the best conceptions of truth and duty. In Thy blessed name we pray. Amen.

Monday
December 10
1928

ETERNAL GOD, all our days, with their opening light and their evening shade, demand our successive praise. We would begin the week with a devout thanksgiving to the infinite Creator of us all. Whatever our fortune or birth, let us rejoice in the possession of life. Not how long, not years, but how well, secures the treasure of time and forever. God help us to be just to ourselves. O shine on our pathways, light them up with the reflection of the upper world. Make of them spiritual highways and thoroughfares for our climbing souls. Always and ever persuade us to keep far, far away from the moral subways, and may we never lose our sky line. Hold

us to a beautiful and glorious vision from which we shall hear the voice and the call of our Father in heaven. Amen.

Tuesday December 11 1928

Thy glory, our Father in heaven, is revealed in its power to invade our lives and touch them to noble issues. When Thou dost remember and gratify the innocent loves of childhood, the roots of our souls are thrust more deeply into the soils of the good, the beautiful, and the true. Thou art a great God and greatly to be praised. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, Thou art God. Manifest unto us the wonder of the Great Name that stands for peace and pardon. Aye, may we show forth His character in the home, in the office, in this Chamber, and everywhere we are called to go, and Thine shall be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Wednesday December 12 1928

Our merciful God, we thank Thee for the secrets of Thy breast, which have been unveiled in the words of the Galilean Teacher. Reaching forth for their prize, which is the high calling of God, is the task of every man; herein is the problem of human life. In the rush and hurry of the days, O do Thou lift our souls, by broader view, to the things that are more grandly true; make our lives better than is just necessary. Grant that Thy providence, with its enfolding care, may protect and return to his native shore our President elect. By his message and mission may brotherhood and good will be strengthened within the realms of earth. Our country we bear to the altar of prayer. Be with it as it sets out upon higher ventures and richer disclosures of the real and lasting truth of our holy faith, which is the divine fatherhood of all men. Amen.

Thursday
December 13
1928

ONCE MORE, OUR BLESSED HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou hast dispelled the thickened shadows and brought us to a new day, which tells of Thy mercy that never fails. Yes; it is a glad new day, with its stretch of open sky, its golden light, and its crystal air. For every embrace of Thy love the doors of our hearts are thrown open in gratitude. Upon all peoples, from sea to sea, let Thy blessing come. Bring them closer and closer together. O gather them about one altar, that they may worship one Father and live together as brothers. Unite all lands and inspire them to make the old earth a happier dwelling place for all Thy children. With ready hearts may we do Thy will and love the greater truths of God. We pray in the name of Jesus, the world's Redeemer. Amen.

Friday
December 14
1928

WE ENTREAT THE SPIRIT OF THE LORD GOD to be upon us. Let this day be an open door to another opportunity for service. Bless us with ease of mind in disappointment and with victory over every fear. Give us beauty for ashes, the oil of joy for mourning, and the garment of praise for heaviness. Let the revelation of eternal love be our ideal. Thus equipped, may we toil for the extension of the good. Empty our hearts of all jealousy, pride, and covetousness, and all selfishness which creates the bitterness of the world. In the calendar of memory may we live as wise servants of the Republic and obedient children of Him who has opened the gates of mercy for all mankind. In His name. Amen.

Saturday
December 15
1928

O THOU who art the Lord of life and light, conquering sin and doubt, sorrow and despair, we thank Thee that there is nothing that stands in the way of Thy perpetual care. In the days when winter cold blights the bloom of summer and we can no longer commune with field and flower, Thou dost blossom in the garden of the human heart and light

up the firmament of the soul. At the turn of each day a bountiful Providence meets and greets us on the stairway of human need. There is no farthest limit to the richness and the blessedness of our Heavenly Father. Away down beneath all finite measures, making as secure as time the sleepers of the old earth, lie the loving, abiding purpose and plan of Almighty God. O let the beauty of the Lord be upon us this day. Amen.

Monday December 17 1928

Let all the earth keep silence before Him! Not in the fear of a sudden impulse, but in the rapture of abiding mercy, we come to Thee, our Father. The echoes of Thy promises are with us and are the consolation of humanity; by them may we be enriched and ennobled. They quicken the truest and the best in manhood; do Thou glorify Thyself in us. Help us to keep our souls unspotted by being at home with Thee. Give us strength and courage to hold on to ourselves. In our weakness sustain us, and in our need do not abandon us. Always direct us to lift up the standards that nourish and inspire human possibilities and human progress. Amen.

Tuesday December 18 1928

O Galilean Savior, the world's Redeemer, Thou who hast passed through the inmost sanctuary of suffering and shed a radiance there, hear us as we tarry in prayer. Death is with us; in its shroud lies an honorable Member of this Chamber, capable in the public service, splendidly upright and good in private life. He has followed the path of our ascended Lord and walks in the newness of life forever. Yet, Father in heaven, the song of praise is not burdened and stilled on our lips; neither is the music of our hearts turned into discordant wailing. Death is only a new contact with the infinite God. Through Thine only begotten Son, the grave is

empty and the throne is full. Oh, eternity, eternity, is here and near; gird us with its glory and envelop us in its song. Amen.

Wednesday December 19 1928

WE ARE SINCERELY GRATEFUL TO THEE, our God and our Father, that it is sublimely true that all things are possible to him that believeth. Increase the power of our faith in Thee—the faith that is the evidence of the unseen and the substance of our hopes for time and for eternity. Failure to trust leads us to be distrusted, and how helpless and weak we become. Let our belief in the final triumph of all things good be so strong in us that it can not be shattered. Thou hast no wonderful secrets for the unbeliever; Thou dost keep and unfold them even to Thy humble children. Lead us with strong wills and soul-might to believe that we are part of a great plan and are servants of a great purpose that shall carry with it the rapture of moral victory, spiritual progress, the aspirations and the onward march of our country. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday December 20 1928

OUR FATHER GOD, we thank Thee that there are many sorrows and disappointments which we have never experienced. At times prompted by anger, by passion, by wicked motive, oh, we thank Thee for the words we did not speak; continue to bless us with the grace of repression. Give us gladness and contentment concurrent with our cares and duties. With eager certainty help us to measure ourselves against the tasks of to-day. Fill our souls with a calm assurance, and may every word and every act flow forth from the unstained and unsullied fountains of conscious rectitude and uprightness. Our Heavenly Father, make us tender toward the erring and forbearing with the forms of human weakness. In the holy name of Jesus our Savior, we pray. Amen.

Friday December 21 1928

THOU WHO DOST POSSESS the sweetest passions of the human heart and in infinite measure, we praise Thee; Thou whose boundless skill has made the worlds and shapes their destiny, we bless Thee. By every tenderest title of human affection, Thou dost make Thyself known to the heart that loves and aspires. O blessed Lord God, we would chant the psalm of thanksgiving and seek to grow wiser and purer. May our faith not become blind; may the anchor of our hope not break, nor our love become frozen in the chill embrace of a worldly life. By Thy providence overrule our ignorance and mistakes; save us from defeat by Thy knowledge and wisdom. Permit us not to fail our country nor sin against our own souls. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday December 22 1928

ALMIGHTY GOD, our Jehovah Father, we wait—waiting for the burst of sacred silence. How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of Him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace. In the Judean twilight, out of the loins of the Hebrew maiden, Thou art to bring forth a Savior who is to set the theme of the world's thought. We shall soon hear the stroke of the purest heart that ever beat, see the tenderest eyes that ever glowed in love, and listen to the most wonderful words that were ever uttered. Down through the long aisles of the past, up to the vaulted roof of the skies, will come the angels' chorus: Glory to God in the highest, on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee that earth's temples are to be no longer empty and lonely. The mighty Son of Israel is to come to restring the harps of men and attune them to the harmony of His own beautiful life. O let the incense of His holy altar envelop us and fill the whole temple of our Republic, bless the hearthstones of our homes and circle forth over land and sea. Father, take our confined hearts, grasp our selfish lives, and use these poor treasures in earthen

vessels. Reunite all lands in the bonds of peace and brotherhood, that they may know the greater fullness of our Father's house. O river of God, O heavenly Christmas tide, flow on and become wider and deeper, touching, blessing, saving this teeming world. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday
January 3
1929

WE PAUSE at the threshold of the new year, Righteous Father; into the folds of the coming months we pass. We believe that Thou art ever nearer than the sky and all the worlds that roll in light. In the care of business, at the hearthstone with the children, at the cot when we wrestle for our loved ones, we need not search for Thy presence, nor feel like an exile far from home. We thank Thee that Thou dost lift us to a knowledge of Thy love and protecting care, and that neither life nor death can change the manifestations of Thy heavenly providence. O may the future glow with the glory of God. In the urgency of great duty or in the joy of a great purpose, may we feel ourselves allied to Thee. By simple honesty, by rejecting falsehood, by wise speech and brave example may we grow larger and better and become increasing forces in the affairs of state and society. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday
January 4
1929

KNOWING THE FULLNESS OF THY MERCY and the majesty of Thy love we would again, dear Lord, revive the ministry of praise. In the ages to come we hope to serve Thee by praise, but here and now we can serve Thee best by service. We thank Thee that out of the gates of Thy throne flow the streams of benevolence that sweeten the bitter waters of afflicted and sorrowing human life. In the name of Him who achieved miracles of restoration and recovery we ask the blessing of comfort and healing upon the stricken multitudes of our country. O

Thou in whom purity, goodness, and power came to their full fruitage, stay Thou the contagion that is abroad in our land. Bring to all our people new strength, new hope, and new vision. O lift the curtains of the world and show Thyself to be great and holy, and may humanity everywhere fall at Thy feet with joy. Amen.

Saturday January 5 1929

We praise Thee, O Father of mercies, that the mind of a great God is on the affairs of human life. We beseech Thee that Thou wouldst resolve all discords into flawless harmony. Subdue the rebellious wills and lives of men. Life's greatest values shall be realized when self is lost in great devotion to all the people of the country. Be unto all of us, O God, more than a clause in a creed; bless us with a personal relationship that shall assure us that Thou art all-loving and all-wise as well as almighty. Save us from ourselves and do not allow the treasures of our natures to go down. Do Thou separate our sins from us as far as the east is from the west, and thanksgiving and praise be unto Thy holy name forever and ever. Amen.

Monday January 7 1929

O God of the ages, Thou who art infinite in love, in wisdom, and far too wonderful for human understanding—every noble task completed enlarges the soul of the doer and increases the joy of the world. As partakers of the divine nature, suffer us not to fail because of inherited tendencies, acquired vices, or evil habits. We believe that it is a consummation of an eternal plan to bring together all things in Thee! O may our souls burst in gladness and praise before the purpose and the abundance of our God. Take our powers unemployed, our ideals unfulfilled, and our possibilities unachieved and let them exult with rapture in the heavenly delights of soul and sense. Be with all

weary hearts and travelers who are on the hard, hard road; keep them until they reach the hilltop of eternity's morning. Amen.

Tuesday
January 8
1929

O BROODING SPIRIT OF GOD, Thou who dost wear the earth as a flower upon Thy breast, hear our little prayer. While we realize the dark mystery of sin, we are so grateful for the bright message of pardoning and redeeming love; help us to translate into terms of human thought and express it in moral terms of daily conduct. We thank Thee that Thou hast placed eternity in hearts of men; and, Heavenly Father, in Thee only can we find complete satisfaction. Our intellects require Thee in the solution of the deepest problems of life. Thou alone canst overtop all finite heights, for in Thee is gathered the fullness of all existence. Help us, direct us, and lead us to-day that our country may have the finest fruitage, our best thinking, and wisest working. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday
January 9
1929

WE THANK THEE, OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, for the enfolding ministries of Thy providence. We praise Thee that through repentance and divine love we have access to the Father, who pardons and restores all who are of a humble heart. Restrain the discordant notes of unrest and defiance to law and authority. Subdue the unwise critics of the Republic, and in every way help us to preserve our national inheritance and traditions, which have made us respected and honored throughout the world. Bring into bonds of unity all our citizens, and let them enjoy a righteous freedom from every form of repression and oppression. Give the blessings of courage, confidence, and good cheer to all sick and sorry hearts. Bless us this day, and may we not fear to-morrow. Amen.

Thursday January 10 1929

O blessed Teacher of Nazareth, Thou hast said: "Learn of Me, for I am meek and lowly of heart." We would sit at Thy footstool; our hunger for knowledge is the sure reality of our divine nature. We wait on Thy altar stairs. Teach us the patience of prayer not answered, and also, they serve Thee who stand and wait; teach us the sanctity of life's quiet moment; teach us the sympathetic meaning of life's checkered pathway and the far-away stretch of life's undying hope. O Lord, teach us the heavenly joy of pure love and the happiness that radiates about the consecrated fireside. And, Father in heaven, we are thankful for the warmth of fidelity in the hearts of our fellows and for the countless mercies that stream forth from the hidden secrets of this dear old earth. We wait with bared head and beseeching hand. Teach us, O God. Amen.

Friday January 11 1929

Most gracious Lord, Thou who hast the power to penetrate the profound mystery of being with unerring love and sympathy, Thy mercy transcends all human affection. Thou dost not dwell in the dense haze of sullen skies to fill us with apprehension; but Thy everyday blessing is a wonderful cause for thanksgiving. Let Thy guidance be realized in the issues of our daily lives. In purpose and exalted idealism lead us to the heights of our powers and make us well worthy of a place in the councils of the Nation. By awakening intellects and spiritual emotions may we be all that we were born to be and to do. Now, Father, breath into our souls the essence of Thy Spirit, and never allow evil to win its ministry nor permit it to claim us as its own. In the holy name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Monday January 1929

O God, Thou who art and evermore shalt be, earnestly may we seek Thee because of Thy loving-kindness and mercy which have followed us

all our days. With silent tread Thou dost walk to and fro among men to quiet and soothe the scenes of sin and strife; also to lift the curtains of hope before their waiting eyes. Do Thou clothe our weakness with power, that we may deserve a name from which spring the great and beneficent movements of to-day. How we desire to thank Thee for sweet and unfailing friendship, for the ones we trust and love and from whom we get the sunshine of existence. If in our homes there are those in darkened chambers, with the light shut out and where silence palls, O be a voice there, a consoling voice. Tell them the things of the immortal soul and bestow those blessings of priceless worth, namely, peace and rest. Amen.

Tuesday
January 15
1929

BECAUSE OF HUMAN FRAILTY, our loving Father, we speak Thy name with faltering lips. All about us are the myriad forms of life and power. We no longer tremble before these mysteries of the material world. All in vain shall we find Thee here. Do Thou enable us to see more than matter. There is nothing greater in all the world than the soul of man! O deal with us according to Thy will and wisdom. Give what is best; still the sigh and awaken the song. Among the shadows of the transient may we most reverently realize the permanent, to which we are eternally allied. We thank Thee for the imperishable certainties that sing on forever. Thy holy name, which is forever chanted through the heavenly spheres; may its voice continue to foretell the morning of earth's fairest day. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
January 16
1929

WE WOULD MEDITATE, MERCIFUL FATHER, upon Thy condescending attitude toward us. We feel assuredly that Thou dost not leave us out. We may know joyfully that we are encompassed and en-

folded within the embracing reach of eternal goodness, the infinite compassion and the unmeasured love of a triumphant God. May our Christian faith have a high moment and rise to a wonderful certainty. We praise Thee for the breadth, the length, and for the depth and the height of Thy all-inclusive mercy. By the might of Thy name and in the strength of Thy truth may we always rejoice in Thy courts. Enable us to meet the day with new zeal and admiration whose wisdom shall be more than our old fondness dreamed. Amen.

Thursday January 17 1929

Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Friday January 18 1929

Almighty God, whose love has consummation in sacrifice and service, quicken us by Thy Holy Spirit that we may conquer the sense of frailty of this passing world. O come out of Thine infinite depths and find a sure dwelling place in our hearts; define Thyself in terms of life—human life, humble life, that ever stoops to conquer. To-day is another providence. Every success launches us upon a new pursuit, and every failure bids us get up and begin again. We must attain; though we fall, we shall not be utterly cast down, for our Heavenly Father upon earth is our strength and the rock of our salvation. May we align ourselves with Thy holy purpose; thus shall we attain the measure of the stature of our manhood. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday
January 21
1929

WE BELIEVE that the steady, sustained mercy with which we are blessed has its fountainhead in Thee, O God. Yesterday has gone, to-day is here. In our labors inspire us to pursue the good and the wise with energy and devotion, that they may bring blessing to our fellows and ennoblement to ourselves. As selected servants and leaders of the people, O may we carry their needs in our hearts. Let us be very, very sure that we live to serve them. We most earnestly ask for the master mind and for the master heart; then mercifully lead us to put ourselves in line with the best possible progress. Whatever may betide, we pray not to allow us to lose heart beneath a gray sky. Whatever fails us, whatever may thrust itself upon us, we thank Thee that it shall not be able to separate us from the love and mercy of our Heavenly Father, who blesses our common devotion, our common effort, and our common sacrifice. Amen.

Tuesday
January 22
1929

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER IN HEAVEN, Thou who art so full of human tenderness and art forever renewing the face of this old earth, we praise Thee for this new day. Be so gracious as to remind us that personal responsibility is again with us; it presses upon us from every department of life and is always as evident as the air we breathe. Our supreme task is to always keep alive that divine spark within, namely, conscience. Our skill and knowledge aside from this are nothing. Put our liberty under the restraint of this divinity. Indeed may it be God within. Beyond all wealth and honor are the timeless virtues to which we are related; they are purity, love, and truth. Their secret springs are in Thee; may they lavish themselves in all the streams of our beings. O Father of mercies, be with us in our daily walk that we may crown these virtues above all others. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday January 23 1929

O THOU ETERNAL ONE, from whom all blessings flow, Thou art still blessing us, though we can not comprehend just why. These days quiver with duty, which is our watchword. It comes to us in silence, when we are alone, where the crowd is not seen nor heard. Again it is with us when we are in the surging multitudes. O Thou, who art mighty in word and in deed, teach us the right thing to do and the right way to go. Our blessed Heavenly Father, may our performance of duty be the outstanding quality that shall command respect throughout our beloved land. We pause at the mercy seat a moment. God be with the sorrow-stricken colleague. The sweet, calm, supplicating voice is still; the door is shut. Help us to believe that there never is a cloud so black but it carries with it, somewhere, a brightness, hidden only because we are not on the other side. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday January 24 1929

ETERNAL FATHER, this moment, set apart and so sacred, may no rude alarm break in upon us, for Thy merciful condescension awakens in us the feeling of devotion. What shall it profit us if we suceed in one direction and fail in another? Make Thyself felt in every issue of our national life and endow us with every quality necessary for the good of the public service. Always enable us to give encouragement to those aspirations that move men's hearts and lend sympathy in those difficulties with which they are confronted. Again a Member has stopped. The shadow of a great loss is about him. May the agitated heart and the wounded spirit find peace in Him who denied it not to the poorest and the lowliest of the children of men. Through life and death Thou art all-sufficient. We thank Thee that Thy promises are not tales of empty love nor words of fabled rest. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Friday
January 25
1929

ALMIGHTY GOD AND OUR MERCIFUL FATHER, we would turn aside for a moment to reflect upon personal responsibility, and even upon the vanity of human greatness. As we stand before our country may the sense of obligation call forth the activity of our highest and finest powers of thought and expression. Do Thou richly endow us with a refined and chastened feeling toward all men. Bless us with a helpful and a profound influence that shall be exerted in shaping the minds and in determining the characters of those with whom we associate. Give us an overflowing passion for the good and for the enrichment of the Republic. Above everything else, our Father, may we never rest content to leave uncared-for the things of the life to come. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday
January 28
1929

O FATHER OF INFINITE LOVE, Thou who art so patient to listen and so willing to hear, do Thou consider us and permit us to go forth to-day with Thy benediction; keep us in the mood of courageous faith and high purpose. Whatever may be the problems, lead the way, and enable us to press on with willing hands and patient hearts. We do most gratefully praise the One who is constantly blessing us. Direct all the interests of our country and all who are in authority. Remember our President and Speaker and all others upon whom rest the responsibility and function of government. In every way glorify Thyself through us, and Thine shall be the praise forever. In the holy name of Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday
January 29
1929

PRAISE BELONGETH UNTO THEE, most gracious Father in heaven. Again we have experienced Thy tender care. We pray that we may rise to that holy ambition that covets pure fellowship and that glorifies common life in sympathetic service. Give a tone and taste to our minds so that our devotion to

our country's welfare shall be the grandest type that our citizens have ever witnessed. As we face problems that shall test the sincerity of our loyalty, O do Thou fortify us with a fine reserve of moral power. Just come into our souls with those enlarged and ennobled virtues which are so apparent on the higher levels of life. Bless the Republic and fill all its sails with a holy energy, and let the winds carry it over the lands and over the seas. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday January 30 1929

Holy and loving Father, we are moved with wonder and praise when we recall how Thou dost provide for us. May Thy marvelous creation and Thy merciful providence incline our hearts to deep and reverential gratitude and thanksgiving. Hear us, though we are so full of imperfections; we wait for Thy blessing. We are so thankful for the chivalry and for the home-coming of those heroes who have just returned from where only God has been. Continue to increase and unfold our knowledge of justice, equity, of the rights of man, and of the necessities of the state. Ever keep us from confusing moral principles and hold before us the vision of truth, which is the grandest scepter that ever directed the thought of man. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday January 31 1929

O Father of us all, the great world, which has become so endeared to us and which touches us on every side, is Thy world. Its streams of tenderness flow around about the throne of omnipotence. Thy faithfulness is unto all generations, and the old earth has never been false to Thee. We have an ally in every star that shines and in every planet that moves. A sense of reproach is with us and we turn our faces earthward, for disturbance and confusion are from man. Pity us in our weakness and

forgive us. O kindle the hidden fires on the altars of our souls and let the heavenly virtues grow in the fullness of their bloom. May the wide sweep of duty be compassed by irresistible resolution and triumphantly borne where wisdom, knowledge, and faith are in full possession. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday February 1 1929

O LORD, OUR LORD, come richly into our hearts, for if they are full of love they are safe from the fear of evil and our dispositions are sweetened by Thy grace. Our natures are teeming with tendencies, desires, and ambitions. Help us to guard our wandering wills and subdue the threatening flames of passion; clear our perceptions and enable us to keep our manhood unstained. In our minds and hearts let there be strangely mingled enthusiasm and restraint, courage and quietness. It is the Spirit of God that makes life worth while. May we open the doors of our souls to Him, and all things will brighten with every step. Just now take our lives, so full of possibilities, and in the distant years may they count as trophies at Thy feet. Amen.

Saturday February 2 1929

THOU WHO ART THE MIGHTY ONE, Master of all forces and the Lord of men and angels, we most humbly acknowledge Thy claims and the right of Thy sovereignty as Lord of lords and King of kings. We praise Thee for a Father in heaven who is a refuge for His children on earth. Thy merciful hand is always reaching out toward us, challenging every other one. May we clasp it. Thou wilt lift us out of weakness into strength, out of sin into goodness, and out of death into life. O urgently persuade us that life is too precious and the world too fair for us to darken them with the clouds of selfishness and neglect. Thou who art so worthy to be worshiped, adored, and served, come with

us; make every morning a rose dawn and every evening a heavenly calm. In the holy name of our Savior. Amen.

Monday February 4 1929

GREAT AND MARVELOUS are Thy works, Lord God Almighty, just and holy are Thy ways. Behind all are intelligence and will which sway an unseen scepter; help us to believe that the power is personal. Let the chant of creation become the song of redemption. In the gladness of this faith, O God, keep us and direct us. In all the works of Thy hands may we behold Thee and see the blessed smile of our Father in heaven. We thank Thee for that love that always finds its way. Many waters can not quench it, floods can not drown it, and time can never change it. Thou who hast laid upon the altar of the world's need the best wisdom and the divinest love, minister unto our sorrowing Member as he bears the weight of a loss which all the world can not replace. Sustain him with the light that never fails and with the strength that never breaks. All through the Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday February 5 1929

THE RICHES OF THY GLORY are unsearchable and are not measured by human standards, gracious Father. Far beyond our thoughts and dreams Thy care extends and Thy grace reaches. O Love Divine, unfathomable abyss, may our sins be lost in Thee. May we never be afraid. Inspire us to move out on the breast of Thy redemptive mercy. Yes, move out beyond the rim of the twilight; and lo, Thou art there. Words! Words! How they fail us. Oh, that we might be able to tell the shapes of things we can not see. We long for a thousand tongues to sing the great Jehovah's praise. Impart to all of us an insight exceedingly abundant, above all we can ask or think. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday
February 6
1929

BLESSED, blessed be the Name which is above every other name in heaven and on earth. In Him are united the ideals of sacrifice and service. He gives us the vision of mingled sorrow and love, of the human God and the divine man. Let it touch the finer senses of our beings, which are far above the sense of pleasure and more glorious than any gain. Save us, preserve us from the soil of sin, the clutch of selfishness, and the heat of passion. May these never be permitted to rob us of the fine graces and the noble virtues of Christian manhood. Bless us with the morning light. Send a ray from the eternal sunshine just for to-day. Amen.

Thursday
February 7
1929

ALMIGHTY GOD, help us to remember that we are here only a little while and there a long, long while. Breathe upon us Thy precious Holy Spirit and prepare us for the growth of every good intention and the nurture of every good desire. We recall our past deflections from the ways of rectitude. Strengthen us, that we may never even falter wherein we have failed before. Keep us from coarseness of speech, and may the deepest thoughts of our natures meet Thy approval. Bless us, qualify us for the very best that lies before us. Consider our infirmities and grant us the sweetening grace of Thy forbearance. O Father, may we never lose Heaven out of our hearts; keep them in harmony with Thy holy will and in tune with that music which shall resound and echo forever. Amen.

Friday
February 8
1929

O GOD, THOU ART OUR FATHER, the lowly Nazarene is our Savior, and the Holy Spirit is our Guide and Comforter. Thus life is made too sacred for any wavering of affection and too spiritual for any unrighteous moods. As we bow at the altars of our hearts, make this moment very precious to us. Hear us once more. Subdue us, pity us, and make us tender. May we all with common eager-

ness seek Thee and feel the pressure of Thy holy arms. Great God, bring into our lives such delights and music that it shall be springtime in all our hearts. Qualify us for excellency of service and in no way may we frustrate the divine will. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

With Thee, our Heavenly Father, as our ever-present help, the fine fidelities of service shall prevail. Thy sovereignty takes up all human choices and deeds and shapes them into Thy eternal purpose. O bless us with a nobler self-hood, enriched from Thine infinite fullness. Not less of life, but life that is more abundant, for this we ask. Stay with us in famine and in plenty, in sickness and in health. Fortify us with Thy wisdom, stimulate us with Thy love, then we shall rejoice and triumph in Thee. Thy mercy is no desert stream that loses itself in the sands, but it widens and deepens in the breadth of the vastness of the infinite ocean. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

Saturday February 9 1929

As we begin to serve the common cause of our country, we thank Thee, blessed Lord God, that we may put our hands in Thine. Teach us that neither learning, wealth, nor glory can make up for a sensitive conscientiousness. Accept our praise for this day and the prospects of this week; may we not pass through them sad nor disconsolate, but happy in our work and glad to serve somebody and our homeland. O make it good and great; maintain its honor and its righteousness for God and man. Its foundations were laid amid the glad chantings of earth's immortals. Its final glories will be revealed when love and law shall sing together and the voices of the multitude shall become the music of the spheres. Hasten the day, Father. Amen.

Monday February 11 1929

Tuesday
February 12
1929

O GOD, THOU ETERNAL SPIRIT, Thou hast laid the foundations of heaven and earth and reared their walls in strength and glory. Forever shall our prayer and praise go up, and forever let the tides of blessing come down. Beget within us the spirit of gratitude, the joy of forgiveness, and the passion of high purpose. Allow comradeship, refreshment, and peace to bless our lives to-day. We are now reminded of the mighty sons who have been born out of the arteries of the Republic, men who could bear the strain and criticism, men who could calm the fears and soothe a distracted land, men who could hush to peace the troubled waters seething on the horizon of our country. O God, Thy providence has brought to this hour the ship of state and permitted its anchor to be cast into the international waters of safety and honor. We thank Thee for the flag and for what it teaches—emblem of fraternity, equality, and liberty. May its stars shining on heaven's blue forever represent all the States united now and forever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday
February 13
1929

OUR FATHER, THOU ART OUR GOD, and earnestly would we seek Thee. The depths of the riches of Thy wisdom and knowledge draw us apart. Thou art the joy of our joy, the peace of our peace, and the love of our love. Our hidden and unseen desires are before Thee. Sift them that they may be foregleams of Thy plan and presence. Throughout this day may our trusts be administered with minds that are wise and with hearts that are true. Look upon our country and the nations associated with us for the advancement of good will throughout the earth. In all things may they stand together for righteousness and justice. Clothe all of them with the high and noble elements of national life. And unto Thee be praises world without end. Amen.

Eternal God, our Father, Thou hast smitten us through and through with divine longings and made us children of time and eternity. Lift us up, dear Lord, to the spiritual tree of life, which is ever bending above us in heavenly abundance. Here we shall find answer to our yearnings as our souls strike their golden notes of triumph. Oh, blessed is the man who is able to say in the doorway of each morning, "Not my will, but Thine be done." In this humble submission, pardon, grace, and tranquillity are born. Thus, sublime our lives may become in wisdom, unselfishness, and sacrifice, bidding us to greatly live. May they be a perfect inspiration, counting as positive forces on the side of all goodness, and then how wonderful their steady streams of influence shall be. Do Thou let this prayer be verified in Thee. Amen.

Thursday February 14 1929

Most holy and merciful Father, manifest in us finer works than are even seen in the heavens above and in the earth beneath. So, we pray, make us unafraid in affliction and fearless in the gardens of life, where the thorns grow. O wherever we are, whatsoever may be the circumstances confronting us, may we sing the jubilee of the soul, which is the music of a sweet and beautiful trust in the All-Father! We bless Thee that Thy boundless strength is our infinite tenderness. In Thee each succeeding day may our characters have their trend and our destinies their verdict. Heavenly Guide, keep us on the road of the loving heart, singing not sobbing, blessing not blighting, and thus we shall serve Thee well and wide just from where we are. In the name of the world's Savior we pray. Amen.

Friday February 15 1929

O Father everlasting, Thou who makest the mornings and the evenings to rejoice together, open for us the deeper and the broader meanings

Saturday February 16 1929

of life. We ask for the very essence of that blessing that cometh through faith and for the fullness that cometh through knowledge. Thou art not an absentee God, far, far away, but an immanent Father of love and wisdom, still at work in the hearts of Thy children. Quicken our understanding, touch our weakness, and let us even dare to chant the songs of lives which transcend their mortal years. Do Thou let the ebbing tides of the week leave us better men, more thoroughly devoted to the needs of our country, and with purer passions of the human heart. May we have a restful to-morrow. Through Christ our blessed Savior. Amen.

Monday February 18 1929

FATHER OF MERCIES, give wisdom this day to our assembly of public servants, with its full significance and magnitude. We now wait in silence because of the stricken colleague, who was faithful to the ideals of public and private life. Be Thou in yonder chamber; press the cup of consolation to the anguishing lips that can not tell their sorrow. From the shadows of death let come the morning's glow of hope and promise. Tenderly bestow Thy grace to bear, Thy Spirit to bless, and Thy power to heal. Oh, what we learn in suffering may we teach in song. We thank Thee that we have our immortality chastened in the heavenly purity and beauty of Him who is the Lord of life and death. Merciful Father, for us stay the tide of years a little longer, and then at sunset let our frail barks sink to a sea of endless day. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday February 19 1929

GOD BE MERCIFUL UNTO US and bless us and cause His face to shine upon us, that Thy way may be known upon the earth, Thy saving health among all nations. Let the people praise Thee, O God;

let all the people praise Thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for Thou shalt judge the people righteously and govern the nations upon earth. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee; then shall the earth yield her increase and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him. Amen.

Wednesday February 20 1929

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEMORIAL EXERCISES

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, this is a sacred moment. Would that our lips were nigh to full speech; we thank Thee that hope, pensive and wondering, finds its secret joy. Again and again the silver cord is loosed, the golden bowl is broken, the pitcher at the fountain and the wheel at the cistern. Oh, how true, merciful God, that our tombs are entangled with our tasks; yet those who journey this way may come to their crown and throne. Thou wilt not forget their works of faith and their labors of love among us. They rose to the level of pure thinking. They felt the throbs of the common heart and scorned to do the evil thing. They have bequeathed us noble examples, for with distinction, patience, and gentleness they served their day. We have shared their joys; we now pay our grateful tributes. This hour we unite our hearts with all sorrowing ones. Heaven drop its charm of richest gifts upon them. We praise Thee that there is no death. The mists that are now so thick will soon lift and drift away, for behind is the sunlight.

They have entered through the hidden portals and have gained the vision in that summer land of the soul, where morning becomes noon and the curtain of night is never hung. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday February 21 1929

FROM MORNING'S DAWN to evening's shade, Thou art our guardian angel, Heavenly Father. So remain with us that there shall be no room for the memory of any wrong. The heart of love is the sweetness of existence. O for a world of strife shut out and a world of brotherhood shut in. Blessed God, persuade the strongest, the weakest, and the humblest that we forgive just in the degree that we love. May we this day renew our covenant, and may it be said to our country that truth is between us forever. Be Thou the anchor of our best thoughts, the guide on our pathway, and the very soul of our mortal beings. Through Christ. Amen.

Friday February 22 1929

THOU WHO DWELLEST in the heavens and earth, unto Thee will we lift up our eyes—Thou who holdest up the soul of the Nation and sufferest not its feet to be moved. Our souls are exceedingly filled with gratitude. Let all the people praise Thee. We thank Thee for our country, with its broad lands and fertile vales, consecrated with the patriot's prayer and made billowy with our fathers' graves. Fortunate the people who can bring up their youth in the memory of the heroic deeds of patriots. Our thoughts stay on him who made possible our natal day, which proclaims the ideal Americanism. The heart of every lover of liberty, every dreamer of the finest ideals of free institutions, is going out in praise to Thee for the Father of the Republic, whose dust rests yonder beneath the terraced green of Mount Vernon. With him, intelligence, equal opportunity, and justice were

the watchwords. Bless our native land, where life means growth, power, maturity, and Christian service. Allow no discord to mar our national brotherhood, but may all seek to serve all. Remembering Thy bountiful providence, we pray that the Gentle One, whose soft touch fell on the upturned foreheads of little children and opened wide His sheltering arms to all, do now enfold in the infinite stretches of His mercy and wisdom our civilization and the world. Amen.

God of our fathers, just as we realize that Thou art an earth-walking and an earth-loving Father, we have that satisfaction which comes from the very best elements of our immortal souls; we have that sweetness that comes from a love-bearing life. Oh, the largeness of it; its fullness transcends our comprehension. Enlarge the sense of our wonderful privilege, that we may break through all barriers of infirmity, and let it give stimulus, inspiration, and aspiration to all that is great and good in the being of man. Direct us in our high mission, so noble a calling, that all our labors may be radiant in the sight of all men. Bless our homes and let heaven rest all about them. In the holy name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Saturday February 23 1929

Thou God of the universe, whose Infinite Spirit moves along the paths of space and from whom the earth and the seas flee away—in the volume of the Book it is written, "I delight to do Thy will"—write Thy law in all our hearts and build in each one a definite altar dedicated to a definite God. O may our zeal in well-doing begin with this new week day, thinking true thoughts and speaking true words. O to be alive, dear Father—alive, taking a living world to our breasts; walking in its brotherly ways, feeling that we are moving on and on to a

Monday February 25 1929

wonderful, great forever. Take us, mold us into the sons of the morning, walking in the light as Thou art in the light, and when the shadows flee and the night is gone our souls shall break into full-throated praise forever. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday February 26 1929

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, above, beyond, and far away are our highest aspirations. We can not reach them now, but we feel them and believe in them. Give us grace and courage to follow their lead. Thou who givest all life, give us hearts replete with thankfulness. Allow nothing to keep us down; but may we strive to direct our admiration for all that is good and noble and all that would enrich and beautify life. O Immortal Love, within whose will righteousness and peace are forever one, pity us; reign in all hearts and bid passion to forever cease. Impress us that beyond all good is being good. Lead us on, seeing Thee who art invisible, working by faith, hope, and love; always seeking to be like the Divine Teacher until we dwell with Him. Amen.

Wednesday February 27 1929

OUT OF THE MYSTERIOUS SILENCES of our breasts, amid the varying currents of the world do we seek Thee, our most gracious Heavenly Father. O Thou who art the inspiration of all that is good and the glory of all that is beautiful, send forth Thy light, reminding us of our place and calling. Do Thou open the windows of our minds that we may receive the spirit and the love of truth, thus turning our weakness into strength. Undergird and uphold our firm belief in the ultimate triumph of the good, for nothing else in equal measure has ever taught us so much how to live. In every situation inspire us to think truly, to speak truly, and to live truly; then our daily lives shall be open books of great and noble creeds. Our prayer is made in the holy name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday February 28 1929

WE PRAISE THEE, O LORD GOD, that in Thee we have that wisdom and love in which we find our peace and opportunity. Cleanse us from all evil; bless our motives and make them chaste and pure. In diligence and devotion may we study the needs of our country, so that our public service shall flame with high quality. Bestow upon us the blessing of consecrated courage, and let our minds have the freedom of unfettered expression of the truth. Always and ever at the altar of the Republic may we offer the sacrament of allegiance, and may all its institutions serve man and glorify our Heavenly Father. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday March 1 1929

WE GIVE THANKS TO THEE, BLESSED FATHER, for all the supplies of love and grace; we praise Thee for the bountiful hand that gives them, and may we strive to use them for Thy glory. Let not the burdens of care, the vicissitudes of business, or any disappointments daze or leave us uncertain as to the performance of our duty. Be our sovereign guide, our bread of life, and the rock of our salvation; we find in Thee the true life, calm and safe. O Lord, unsettle the foundations of every iniquitous agency, put to naught every wicked thing, and bless the endeavors of those who seek the good with simplicity and earnestness. Direct us to hearken unto Thy statutes, walk in the ways of Thy commandments, and keep our expectant lives toward the rising sun of hope and promise. Amen.

Saturday March 2 1929

BECAUSE OF THE FATHER'S MERCY we are here. We thank Thee, for Thy stars have been watching overhead. A prevailing Providence has laid its hand upon us, and called us to manifold service. Thou hast charged us with great responsibilities and put us in trust of great things, from which there is no escape. O the pain and the bliss of living! Merciful

Lord God, when we were impatient, it was because we were weak; when we were harsh, it was because our wisdom was imperfect. Forgive us and let us rest quietly and hope confidently that we have the approval of Thy benediction. The scenes of this Congress are closing; we are helped because of its memories and associations. The union of hearts and minds will soon be severed. We would not close the door with a restless or impatient hand. O God, bless our Speaker, all Members, officers, and pages. Keep bright and radiant every sky and cleanse the last cloud from every horizon. Lead us on; carry us when weary, and always provide strength according to our need. Ever clothe us with peace and happiness; always hold us in the sweet and beautiful trust that sometime, some way, somewhere we shall meet in the perfect day. In this tranquil moment we think of that Member who was associated with the intimate work of this Congress. The Grim Reaper has called; he who stood high in the scale of service answered. We cast at his bier loving tokens of esteem and appreciation. Remember the family in the night of its deep sorrow. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers

Offered by the Chaplain at the Opening of the Daily Sessions of the House of Representatives of the United States During the Seventy-first Congress (1929-1931)

First Session

Monday April 15 1929

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, Thou art our all in all, and each passing day may this marvelous truth be the source of our strength and comfort. By a high standard of thinking, feeling, and acting may we strive to serve Thee, for Thou art the sum total of all our hopes. O Spirit of truth and righteousness, keep us mindful of our highest duty and obligation. As a public office is a public service, enable us to move forward with that power and wisdom which belong to those who are not laboring for themselves. Clothe us with patience and sympathy for all the levels of human life, and, Lord God, help us to serve them. Bring all our citizens into a true unity of interest in those things that shall ennoble and enrich our whole country. Hasten the hour when all men shall dwell in the embrace of peace, fraternity, and cooperation. O dwell with us and with our hearthstones; bless our President and his fireside; be his guide and his guest. Forgive us our sins, and always remember us at our best and not our worst, and Thine shall be the glory and praise forever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday April 16 1929

Teach us, O Lord, to keep in our grateful minds Thy prevailing providence. We would praise Thee for that love which is the supreme power and sign and wonder of God in the world. Let us always

determine to make Thee the divine Lord of our lives, upon which falls no shadow and rests no blame. Make us serious in thought, helpful in act, and gracious in manner. May these virtues be the constant temper of our daily conduct. So abide with us that the record of this Congress shall be real, exalted, inspiring, and possessing a captivating influence that shall be felt throughout our land. Amen.

Wednesday April 17 1929

MOST MERCIFUL GOD, the constant conviction is still in our hearts that almighty love encircles us. How many joys, how many exquisite raptures, how many moments of deep tranquillity are inspired by the good things that come to us. Holy! holy! is Thy name. Thou who hast ordained that man should work together with Thee, give us grace and wisdom to employ all our faculties for the good of our country. We would open the gates of our souls and let God come in and make His covenant with us. Make us true disciples of the Great Teacher and followers of the highest example and the holiest life that ever entered the thought of man. Do Thou sympathize with all who are in sorrow, temptation, or perplexity. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday April 18 1929

O GOD OF LOVE AND GOD OF WISDOM, again the veil of the night is lifted and the light has broken everywhere; may our thought catch the sacred sweep of this truth and be linked with the Infinite and with the Eternal. We pray this day that Thy Holy Spirit may move and stir every impulse of high purpose. May He light the torch of spiritual knowledge that shall banish ignorance and bring us out into the fullness of the more abundant life. So elevate our lives that they may turn to the thought of influence and power that shall gladden, bless,

and help. Enkindle in us a generous spirit, that shall be a divine presence, doing good everywhere in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday April 19 1929

Almighty Father, as we walk the pathway of these days, may we bring helpfulness, brightness, and cheer to all who touch our lives. We thank Thee for the assurance, namely, in Thee we have adequate foundation for all our hopes, and we turn our faces joyfully to the high call of human service. As we give ourselves to Thee in the bonds of unfailing fidelity, iniquity is forgiven and sin is forgotten. Let us walk in Thy footsteps, for this aspiration will bring no disappointment; the triumph of this endeavor will always bless. O God, spare us from any blind selfishness which robs us of the satisfaction and joy of service, and fill us with that magnanimous spirit that ennobles and enriches life; thus we shall not live in vain. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Saturday April 20 1929

Because of Thy mercy and compassion, our Heavenly Father, our grateful hearts run out toward duty and the future. This divine endowment makes man the favorite of heaven and earth. Do Thou enthrone in all our breasts a love for Thy law and clothe us in the garments of Him who glorifies our God across the centuries. We thank Thee for the countless manifestations of divine love. It glows in the sunlight; it breathes in the morning air; it blossoms in the landscape; it gleams in the radiant sky; and it gives courage and comfort in the hours of loneliness and sorrow. Glory be to Thy name, O Lord most high! Thy name is love. We praise Thee for its power and for the glory and beauty of Thy holiness. Blessed Lord, cheer the common heart of our country and of the world. Amen.

Monday
April 22
1929

O THOU whose glory lights up with its healing beams the dark places of the world, where misfortune and trouble lie heaviest, hear our prayer. As we wait in Thy presence this sacred moment, hearken, O Lord, unto us. How precious are Thy counsels, O God. When in difficulty help us; when in doubt guide us; and when in sorrow cheer us. Remind us of the great debt we owe our country; but beyond every other obligation is that of a good name; thus may we adorn our high places. Be thou a silent witness through the waiting hours and preclude the heart of resentment and the voice of impatience. Bestow upon us the blessing of wisdom and the ease of an untroubled heart. In the precious name of Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday
April 23
1929

THOU GOD, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, shine into our hearts and give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God. When we are separated lead us to take time for the patient, pious pondering of the sacred truth of our Father in Heaven. In the contacts and associations of this day help us to be loyal to friendship, courageous in principle, ever faithful to truth, and generous in spirit. Do Thou come with us and give success to our endeavors, and bless us with that peace and satisfaction which are promised to those who diligently seek and love Thee. Purify our ambitions and cleanse us from all selfishness. Direct and bless all institutions that serve our fellow men. Be with those whose hearts are hungering for comfort as they breathe in smothered sighs because they can not note their silent grief. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday
April 24
1929

HEAVENLY FATHER, the manifestations of Thy glory and mercy are renewed every day; we therefore praise Thee and would seek to magnify Thy holy name. Pardon us wherein we have failed

and rebuke us wherein we have been unwise and foolish. Through Thee may we continue to learn that the life that walks with God and finds its highest satisfaction in blessing men will live on in the beauty of its memory. The workman dies, but the work goes on, though the earthly form lies moldering in the dust. O may we live in minds made wiser, in hearts stirred to heavenly music, and in labors born of courageous faith in eternal realities. Hear our prayer for Thy name's sake. Amen.

Thursday April 25 1929

Almighty Father, hear us as we greet the day, in which there is no adverse stroke of trouble or fate; we therefore thank Thee. Behind the curving sky; beyond that mysterious shore, where the night winds murmur; out through the stretches of space, Thou art God, infinite in wisdom and power. How we wonder! How we marvel as we think of Thy condescension and the guidance of Thy blessed providence! In Thy light we shall see light. O help us to read life's meaning in the light of Thy goodness and mercy. Duty and loyalty are our trusts; clothe us with Thy Spirit and direct the way; be our life's star; bless us with contentment and give us the heart that sheds its silent glow upon others. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday April 26 1929

Our Father, Thou art a great God and greatly to be praised. We would erase everything of the past that is not right and turn to this day and write upon it only the things that are just and good. Surrendering ourselves to Thee, may we keep it clean and pass the rest aside. The blessing of Thy grace impart; take us, mold us, and have us live in Thee. Bring tidings of joy, peace, and brotherhood to every section of our country. As its chosen servants, give us the spirit of courage and the virtue of

sincerity to look life in the face with calm, undrooping gaze. O Lord God, lift us high above life's compromises and guide our souls by the unfading star of truth. Lead us, inspire us to serve, and even to suffer that our beloved homeland may be a grand temple of law, light, and love. Amen.

Monday
April 29
1929

AT EACH STEP of our onward path, O God, some gift of rare blessedness Thou dost bestow. We thank Thee that Thou dost hold us in Thy mighty arms with love divine and wilt not let us go. Enable us, O Lord, to make these days most significant; but high over every other motive may we strive to love Thee sincerely and to serve Thee humbly. Do Thou lead us on and on until the eternal morning breaks and we reach the crowning miracle of the best life, in which truth in its beauty and simplicity are established forever. We can not see far ahead; but for what lies beyond may we trust the hand of our Heavenly Father. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday
May 3
1929

OUR FATHER, we believe that Thou art God; yet our faith is still unproved by works, our natures are still undeveloped by service, and our hearts still fail to overflow with charity. Thy presence, blessed Lord, is at once a stimulus and a help to purity of heart and nobleness of endeavor. Let this day mean to us a broader, deeper, truer, happier life. Give us courage to fearlessly say the words which witness to righteousness, patiently do the deeds which strengthen virtue, generously extend the helping hand to sustain the weak, faithfully give support to all things good. Then, too, dear Father, when these hours close may we have sweet memories of companionship and new proofs of brotherly love. Amen.

Monday
May 6
1929

Lord God of life and light, whom we love and trust, as the reach of our influence is near and far, direct and strong, we earnestly seek Thy guidance. Our lives are sacred trusts not only for ourselves but for many others. If we use them wisely, they shall be helped and shall be led to keep the grasp of their faith on powers that shape, hold, and transform society. O may we take the wisdom and the sunlight of God and fling them back to men in sweet and blessed fragrance. However difficult our task and problems, give us courage and confidence. Keep us good at heart, doing our duty; ever diligent, faithful, and patient all the hours through. Father of mercies, we wait. One of us has just learned heaven's mysteries and beheld heaven's glory. Time has eased his grief and death has purged all darkness from his eyes. O prepare us for the great transition. In Thy name. Amen.

Tuesday
May 7
1929

Not unto us, O Lord, not unto us, but unto Thee be honor and glory forever and ever. We bless Thee for life lived here and now. Let the divine fingers sweep over the harps of our souls, and do Thou keep them in tune with the Infinite. May their music be good thoughts, aspirations, and loves—these all—wonderful realities and fine nobilities. Anything that cheapens manhood, that fetters it to earth, and stands in the way of its essential freedom and its moral worth, do Thou defeat and destroy. We thank Thee for the power not ourselves that makes for righteousness. Establish the work of our hands this day, and praises be unto Thee in the timeless glory of an unaging heaven. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday
May 9
1929

Almighty God, at Thy mercy seat we would humbly bow, beseeching Thee to forgive our sins and let Thy love acquaint us that Thou dost

pardon as we forgive. As our country has set its seal upon this Congress and clothed it with the mantle of authority, Holy Spirit of God, give wise guidance to our Speaker and all Members and impress them that the deed is the man. In all situations may we hold on to our honor and keep our conscience clear. The Lord preserve our homes, where pour our thoughts and joys, for there are no such bonds on earth so tender and sublime. Strengthen our faith in humanity. As it takes two to be glad, lead us to seek always wholesome fellowship. When time comes creeping along and it is often so hard to be brave and happy, be Thou our great Companion. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday May 10 1929

HEAVENLY FATHER, the most precious thing in us is our aspiration after Thee. So help us that this tendency may never be deceived or perverted. We praise Thee that forever about the altar of prayer Thy guiding light shines forth. We thank Thee for this door of Thy merciful presence. O make it a gateway through which our souls may pass into a sacred temple where the whitest life of the kingdom can be achieved. As chosen servants of the Republic, may we meet wisely the test of our loyalty. In our pathway lies duty. Do Thou, O God, instill in us the high sense of justice, wisdom, and personal honor, that we may always be clean, honest, pure-minded, home-loving, and God-fearing citizens, and thus we shall be blessed by the smile of an approving God. Amen.

Saturday May 11 1929

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, the blessings of life are countless. Its cup is so full that we know not where to begin to praise Thy holy name. To-day the tides of our thought are shifting and the shadows of the past are lifted. We muse in our hearts of mother. No sculptor ever wrought

with master touch a fairer face. O God, it is rapture to think of her measureless love. Her footstool was our first altar; her worn hand guided our faltering footsteps. When the day was done and the toil was through, oh, brighter the skies, smoother the paths, and sweeter the rest because of mother. Do Thou always enable us to honor her station and prove her high estate. To-day her holy sacrifice pours through the glad sunlight of her soul and breaks the gray clouds of selfishness. May we dedicate ourselves to her heaven-inspired virtues, which time can never touch. Oh, let the heart of mother, carved in its immortal image, rule and transform our conduct until our whole natures are stirred with its blessing. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday May 13 1929

Gracious Heavenly Father, with Thee we would begin this day and be sensitively conscious that Thou art the source of all wisdom. Forgive our incompetency and help us. Give us great confidence in that divine guidance that assures the man of vision the faithful servant and the loving heart. Without this we make of our duty an uninviting drudgery. It is for us, our Father, to express ourselves in terms of helpfulness; inspire us to do so. We may fail in ten thousand things, but we must not fail in this one. We must live and speak the soul's truth. Take our homes and our children and fold them in Thy blessed arms. Dispel all fear and lull them to sweet repose. How memorable shall be this day if we bring gladness and encouragement to others. May we do so; and unto Thee be eternal praises. Amen.

Tuesday May 14 1929

Eternal God, our Father, who didst create and give life to all earth's children, we pray that the tides of our lives may ever be true to that divine love which flows from beneath the heavenly shad-

ows. Let our minds just now resign to the solemn prayer of gratitude; answer it according to Thy wisdom. May there fall upon our ears the silence of the voice which is sovereign. O Thou who givest expression to life's mysteries, we breathe our thanksgiving and homage to Thee; make our offering meet for Thy acceptance. Cleanse our hearts, purify our lips, and take compassion upon us. Give us clear, wise insight into all seemly, just, and generous questions. In all the circumstances of this day Thy quickening grace supply. May we live to uplift, help, and bless our fellow men and glorify our Father in Heaven. Amen.

Wednesday May 15 1929

O THOU FLAWLESS ONE, who lived and taught and died, divinely conscious of a wonderful mission, we look to Thee and find our deepest longings satisfied. Teach us that Thou art still in the world; still accessible to all who come unto Thee with a humble and a contrite heart. Make us seriously concerned with the forces which are beyond the sky line of everyday life. Revive Thy work in the midst of the years—in the midst of the years make it known. Then as Thy glory covereth the heavens, so shall the earth be full of Thy praise and be silent to listen. In the holy name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Thursday May 16 1929

LORD, GOD OF THE HARVEST, Thou dost prepare for us a lesson every morning, and in it is Thy wonderful mercy. Let this truth chasten us and impose on us the virtue of humility. Let it be strangely urgent and constraining as its intense reality touches us. Forgive our foolish ways, clothe us with right-mindedness; and at the impulse of our better selves may we serve Thee. Bless us all with hearts in which hopes and longings, affections and desires, blossom immortally. We praise Thee, O God, that Thy fatherhood is best realized in saving, training,

and directing Thy earthly children. So be unto us; and at the end of the day let us relax into deserved rest. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday May 17 1929

O Spirit of the Most High, be with us. We have a vivid realization of sin and its unworthiness. We come to Thee as the great inspiring cause for its resistance and growth in manly character. Thou art all-wise, all-holy, and all-loving. Continue with us, that in the fulfillment of our mission we may be wise and helpful, for everything that is created and fashioned here interprets us. Let these be the constraining principles that dominate our conduct—to deal justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God. Endow us with full and complete knowledge of our duty, and may we not disregard the dictates of our conscience. As we study, plan, and labor may we do so with a high ideal that shall make us strong, fit, and patriotic citizens of our country. Through Christ. Amen.

Monday May 20 1929

Father in heaven, for this new day we thank Thee; its call is with us. There never was a better opportunity, a better place, or a better time than now and here. May we prove that we are strong and brave enough to legislate wisely for our Republic and to maintain the integrity and the authority of its free institutions. Stir us with that enthusiasm that calls us to the high levels of service and that sets a great end to which our work may converge. Keep our pathways unbroken and lead us on to life, higher life, ever answering the call of Him, which is ever onward and upward. Reveal to us the vision of that love that unifies creeds and peoples, that inspires service, that makes sorrow useful, and that redeems us from sin. In the name of the Christ. Amen.

Tuesday
May 21
1929

ALMIGHTY GOD, breathe upon us, and any depression we may have will pass away like a morning cloud. Take away from our minds any strain and stress and let them confess the wonder of Thy peace. We need more receptiveness, and we pray that Thy Holy Spirit may manifest the assurance of a calm and fruitful faith. Employ our gifts, our powers, and all material forces in the promotion of good will throughout the Republic. Convince us, dear Father, that the man who is intelligently and intimately related to Thee is a tremendous force, from which issue the currents of wisdom and righteousness. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
May 22
1929

OUR FATHER, at this noonday moment we would lift up our voice to Thee and seek to feel the restful assurance of the helping, transforming power of Thy presence. Send us forth on our errands of duty. As we touch life, may we gladden and cheer our fellows. O Thou who dost clothe the lily and inspire the songbird, help us to grow in the beauty and sweetness of the Christian virtues. Let our faith see through doubt, endure hardship and temptation, and hold steadfastly to Thee. Fill us with large sympathies for others and bless us with complete trust in Thy goodness, which is at the heart of humankind. Amen.

Thursday
May 23
1929

OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN, holy, holy is Thy name. We see Thy hand to-day in the beauty and prospect of nature, in the promise of harvest field and orchard grove, and in the numberless delights of Thy providence. Open our hearts to this inflow of divine order, for everything breathes the promise of new life. Do Thou help us to do true and noble things, and thereby justify our place in the life of the Republic. O voice of God, incite us to the formation of true characters, for without which all

accomplishments and achievements, all talent and learning are nothing. In the pauses of the work of this day may we have right incentive, cheer, and rest. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday May 24 1929

We praise Thee, O Lord, that the golden fingers of sunrise have brought us the glory of a new day. Upon Thy altar we would pour the incense of our gratitude. There, in the midst of labor and responsibility, we find the serenity of the soul. Do Thou let fall upon us the leaves of Thy healing and blessing. Regard the sweet sentiments and good thoughts that bloom in our hearts and minds; unuttered and unexpressed they lie in silence there. In the performance of duty, help us to be resourceful and equal to its call. Dear Lord God, may we be men who can. Through Christ the world's Savior. Amen.

Monday June 3 1929

O God, the Father of us all, with our hands in Thine, we shall be led by the right pathway. Consider and hear us; make us sincere and serious, vigilant and willing to do everything that truth requires. Lead us through the ever-green pastures of Thy grace; keep our feet from the pitfalls and the dark precipices. Seal in our hearts beautiful sentiments, direct and courageous motives. Spare us from the drowsiness of carelessness, and do not allow it to steal over us. Blessed Lord, shine on our way, and the blindness of materialism shall not betray us nor the intoxication of pleasure lure us to take the fatal step. Take us, fascinate us, and enthuse us with the spirit of sacrificial and patriotic devotion. Amen.

Tuesday June 4 1929

Thou who wilt not break the bruised reed, do Thou hear our prayer. Out of the depths of our helplessness and because of our tendencies do we

call upon Thee. Just now let silence rest upon our souls, that Thy Spirit may whisper sweetly. These servants of the Republic, who direct the sentiments of the State, give them a special benediction. Bless and guide them with a brave heart, a calm mind, and an undaunted spirit. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday
June 5
1929

WHILE OUR DAYS ARE PASSING BY, our Heavenly Father, we praise Thee. How lovingly Thou dost brood over Thy children. The glories of Thy kingdom are love and joy and rest. Thy mercy, O God! The amazing wonder of it! Time does not breathe upon it; it stretches far beyond the tomb and the cloud. How the thought stirs and rejoices us. Merciful and gracious, here and now and forevermore. Hear us, Father. By candor and by courage may the right prevail to-day. Renew our strength and freshen our intellects by fellowship with the good, the true, and the beautiful. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Thursday
June 6
1929

WE CLOSE THE DOOR OF THE BUSY WORLD as we approach the altar of prayer, where our Heavenly Father waits forevermore. In Thy mercy Thou hast kept us, O Lord, and Thy might has preserved us. Thou, who art the living God and the God of the living, hast overshadowed us with Thy fatherly presence. As our country needs the strong soul and the high endeavor, do Thou enable us to fill every position with honor and perform every duty with fidelity. We praise Thee "so long Thy power hath blessed us, sure it still will lead us on." Yes; lead us on to the deeper rest and the better life; on and on to youth's immortal day while we grow old. Amen.

Friday
June 7
1929

Almighty God, while angels praise Thee we would seek Thy favor. O Thou loving Father, whose open hands give blessings of compassion and forgiveness, lift us into the sunlight and bid us face the open sky; inspire us with the broad vision. Keep us in perfect proportion and in complete contact with Thee. Bless every silent advance, every defense of the truth, every combat with sin, and every triumph over wrong. Dear Lord God, do Thou make the glorified cross the undisputed throne of mankind. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday
June 8
1929

In this sacred stillness, blessed Lord, let the calmness of Thy Holy Spirit quiet us like a holy incense. Thou who art the best coming to the worst, be with us. Make us a little better and a little bigger for this day. Urge the truth of Him who bore the stainless shield into all our hearts. Remember us, O Mighty One, for we need Thee. The years, the years, sit lightly, sit lightly upon us, and may we never lose the dauntless cheer of youthhood. Ever hold us, O God, with our earthborn faces against Thy radiant light. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday
June 10
1929

O God of love and Father of mercies, Thou alone canst multiply our strength and usefulness many, many times. We seek Thy guidance and help, that we may appreciate the unrecognized blessings of life. Beside every fountain of bitterness Thou dost unveil some star of hope, and in the hour when courage runs low Thou art nigh. Give us sustaining wills to trust Thee, love moral truths, and skill to interpret and enforce them. Bless us with the glow of happiness that comes from a sense of Thy approval. Thou art truth! Thou art infinite truth.

O God, may we be followers of that truth that shall stand in the judgment morning and not be ashamed. Through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world and they that dwell therein.

For He hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods.

Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place?

He that hath clean hands, and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully.

Wednesday
June 12
1929

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Thursday
June 13
1929

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER and our God, Thy blessed word is with us, "He that cometh unto Me I will in no wise cast out." May we come, for Thou wilt hear. May we trust the events of Thy providence and understand that all good work is immortal. Not one wise word was ever lost; not one righteous prayer ever perished; not one pure enthusiasm ever failed; not one self-sacrifice ever came to naught. Impress us that there is no satisfaction comparable to the joy of appointed duty wisely performed, and that there is no regret like the consciousness of opportunities and gifts wasted and lost. Keep us in that pathway that leads to the temple of wisdom and knowledge, and evermore inspire us to grow the beautiful flowers of the soul. Amen.

Monday June 17 1929

BLESSED FATHER IN HEAVEN, be with us to-day. Give us the vision that lends glory to common tasks and that sheds splendor on obscure talents. Let Thy Spirit stir mysterious aspiration in all. Crown us with a new power coming from beyond ourselves; then shall we have real and lasting weight of character. Expel from our breasts every thought of hate, envy, strife, covetousness, and vulgarity. Cause love, joy, and peace to grow and blossom in all our lives. Bless us with the consciousness of right doing and right living. These are of eternal value, for they that thus do Thy will shall shine as the brightness of the firmament and shall be crowned with everlasting honor. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday June 18 1929

DRAW NEAR TO US, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, with Thy brooding Holy Spirit. Draw near to cleanse our minds from all fear, from doubt, from the sense of guilt, and all desire which is unworthy of the children of God. Let Thy kingdom come not only in this favored land but in all lands. O make the power of men to reside in goodness of heart, in the sense of justice, and in their intelligence. Those evils that come from discord and false understandings, do Thou defeat them and banish cruelities and violence from the face of the earth. At this moment, which is momentous, may the two English-speaking peoples be guided into a more perfect knowledge and wisdom of their relations and responsibility to other nations. God be with the two notable sons in their counsels, and may the hour of mutual understanding speedily come. Amen.

Wednesday June 19 1929

GOD BE MERCIFUL UNTO US and bless us, according to the rich promises of Thy Holy Word. With stout hearts, free hands, and open minds do Thou

endow us as we onward walk the paths of duty. Stimulate us with that faith that always greets the dawn rather than the setting sun—faith in Thee, in our fellow men, and in the ultimate triumph of all things right. With firmness, with patience, and with kindness may we have courage. Blessed Lord God, be with our Speaker and every Member and officer of this Congress. Dismissing past regrets and future fears, send them forth on errands of service, happiness, and good will. Give them a restful satisfaction that comes to those who have borne wisely and well their part. Keep and bless the loves of their firesides, for they are a little bit higher and holier than all the rest. Be with every one of us until the final triumph of life is won. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday
September 23
1929

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou hast blessed us with the thought of Thy mind and with the love of Thy heart. Through the infinite grace of Him whose mercy endureth forever, the number of our days has been secured and the stretch of our lives has been preserved. In the deepest gratitude we would crown Thee as the Lord God of our salvation. O take our lives and lift them to higher planes, penetrate them with loftier ideals, make them throb with nobler impulses, and direct them to greater ends. In silent reverence we recall the memory of our departed Members and are reminded of what a perpetual challenge life is. It is so full of disappointments; and faith in Thee alone can give us patience when hopes lie dead. Sweeten the chambers of our souls and fill them with that love which is the fruit and flower of character. Continue to regard in mercy and wisdom our President. Impress our Republic that it will fulfill its mission not according to the amount of truth it holds but to the amount it applies. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday September 26 1929

TO-DAY, GRACIOUS FATHER IN HEAVEN, our memory runs back and kindles our love by reviewing the evidences of divine care. Hope looks forward and is fortified by the mercies which Thou hast prepared for us. Do Thou hear us as we ask Thee to make our love not just a mood but the habit of our souls. Forgive the spirit of our conduct, that so often is marked with pride, selfishness, and willfulness. The gift of Thine only begotten Son is the golden background against which our sins stand out in terrible relief. Oh, how the sense of our failures becomes acute as we think of Him. May we keep striving each day to make the course of our lives one of honorable service, seeking to do what in conception and purpose is courageous and noble. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday September 30 1929

O GOD, we look back in earnestness and look forward in confidence. Thou art always the same. Thou art the same to-day as Thou wert yesterday. So there comes to us the same old message, more and more venerable and more and more true: "Honor all men; love the brotherhood and fear God." Let us seek appreciation rather than criticism; make us free to see the beautiful and to love the good; then the glory and the joy of life will stand freshly revealed in everything. O may we be alive to every flower that springs among the rough places of our everyday life, even to every sweet thing that blooms in the dust of the street, to the mercies and privileges of common days, of common places, of common things, and of common people. Thus we shall be blest along life's pathway until we arrive at home. Amen.

Thursday October 3 1929

O GOD OF LOVE AND FATHER OF ALL MERCIES, we pause to think of what we owe Thee—how feeble our response and how weak our grasp upon the

abiding treasures of life. Come to us and let fall from us the godless things that often cling like a jealous curtain, and make us realize the grander things of the soul and its heritage. Forgive us and make us thoughtful, and show us somewhat the exhaustless depths of Thy power. Restore us by the force of Thy redeeming grace. Keep us endowed with moral courage which carries our principles untarnished through the world. O bless this truth to us, which is the shadow of God falling across our lives, and Thine shall be the glory. In the Master's name we pray. Amen.

Monday October 7 1929

O THOU WHO UNDERSTANDEST the most secret thoughts which no language can reveal and before whom our hearts are open pages, grant unto us Thy presence. Forgive us our sins and teach us how to avoid temptation; bless us with trust and settled peace undisturbed. Graciously regard all England and her King. Mercifully be with his special minister and our President. May they be worthy of Thee. In all humility, in all courage, and in all fidelity may they labor for the peace and the advancement of all mankind. May all nations hear their pleas and be led to cease from war, efface cruelty, destroy injustice, and establish righteousness. May they be moved by the compassion of Him who traced the boundless circle of humanity, where not one life lies without its mighty rim. O minister unto these chosen servants, as by patience and wisdom they seek understanding and unity. O God, remember these two nations with their grave responsibilities; may they hear the angels' call and give no more heed to the mutterings of hate. Be with the hosts of devoted men throughout the world who are seeking by creation of healthier conditions of life to tame and subdue the demon of war. We pray in the name of Him who is the Prince of Peace, whose pierced hands reach across the gulfs that divide

men. Soon, ah, soon may a cleansed world be ushered in, and malice and hate shall have perished from the old earth forever. Amen.

Thursday October 10 1929

O Lord our God, may we not relax the firmness and the force of our immortal souls; may every circumstance be borne in the temper of serene mastery. With a deep recognition of our relation to Thee, help us to attain the consciousness of Thy glorious presence in our daily lives. Only in fellowship with Thee do we realize the dignity and the power which defy vicissitudes. O Father of us all, in this solemn stillness as we pray do Thou forgive us. May we leave this Chamber better men; then our prayer will have been answered and unto Thee will be praises forever. Amen.

Monday October 14 1929

Hear us, our Father, we pray. We thank Thee that the quality of Thy mercy is not strained. As the light from the skies and the rain from the heavens, it is like the finest of the wheat and the honey out of the rock. Prepare us, blessed Heavenly Father, for our work. There is no higher attainment than service, there is no more desirable gift than power couched in love, and no better prayer than "Thy will be done." Take our wills and make them Thine. Stimulate them with a consuming desire to be our noblest and to do our best in return for the unmerited love of our Savior and for the honor our country has bestowed upon us. In the name of the Master. Amen.

Thursday October 17 1929

O Thou in whose hands are all things—power to make evil good, the sinful pure, the selfish generous, and the base noble—come nigh us. Take our weakness and mold it into strength—strength that

is manifested in the conquest of evil, in the triumph of virtue and in the fine achievements of our moral beings. O help us to take heed lest we fail through indifference or unbelief. Bless us with love and peace in our hearts. Lead us to pray, to meditate; thus we shall ponder the depths and look into the heights, and the fatigue of life shall be no more. In the name of our Heavenly Father. Amen.

Monday
October 21
1929

HEAVENLY FATHER OF US ALL, we believe that them who wait and aspire, Thou wilt hear. We now wait. Do Thou open our spiritual eyes. Give us free minds and warm hearts to love and serve Thee. In strength, hope, and joy, in the power and pride of life send us forth among our fellow men. No life could be more inspiring or fraught with greater meaning. Teach us that he who lives for self denies his Lord. In every situation direct us to do the truth and come to the light, and each day may we speak the brave word, do the brave deed, and live the brave life. Do Thou let the voices of "just things" die in hushed silence at the doorways of our lives. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday
October 24
1929

WE NEED A REFUGE, O GOD, and we praise Thee that we find it in Thy fatherhood. We thank Thee for the form and the power and the love of Him who gave His life for us. We are made better by hearkening to His counsels and heeding His precepts. O bless us with His mercy, pity, and peace. Let us know Him, and wisdom will surely linger. We would have this be our chief desire. We ask this for Thy glory and for the inspiration of our daily lives, of which Jesus Christ, the Lord of heaven and earth, is pledge and proof. Amen.

Monday October 28 1929

Almighty God, we pray for the blessed inspirational guidance of Thy Holy Spirit. How strong frail human nature can become when constrained by the love and power of the divine! We come to Thee with loving wonder; we are lost in the mystery of godliness. But answer the longings of our hearts, and send us forth through the hours of this day clothed in righteousness and with the mercy of forgiveness in our hearts. Remind us of our solemn vows and our slighted obligations, and forgive us as we pray to be forgiven. Again we thank Thee for the loving eye that sees our paths and for the loving ear that hears our voices. Amen.

Thursday October 31 1929

Dear Lord, just for a moment we calmly wait. Nothing but the bread of heaven can feed our souls, and nothing but the blessed balm of Gilead can heal the hurts and wounds of life. Be with that Member upon whom a great sorrow has come and whose fireside is dark. Draw us from self and sin to Thee and goodness. We want the old truth, namely, God in human life—a truth as old as eternity and as new as the last ray that floods the earth. Bless our homes, Heavenly Father. Make every one a house of God and every hearthstone an altar of prayer. Help us to obey Thy commandments and keep Thine ordinances. Keep Thy servants from presumptuous sins and let them not have dominion over us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday November 7 1929

Our Lord and our Father, Thou hast instructed us out of our own souls and out of the blessed memory of days and years long ago. We do believe that Thou art not a God of fate, but Thine is the sovereignty of love. We are glad and rejoice that

Thou art not an avenging God, but an infinite Father, beholding us with a Father's love and care. We pray for a strong, manly trust that meets trouble with courage and sustains the soul when cares and trials hurt. Make us free from all envy and jealousy and fill us with the spirit of the Master and this shall bring springtime and summer to our souls. Amen.

Monday November 11 1929

O GOD, bless our country with all its time-honored institutions. Establish all our national agencies in truth, in justice, in purity, and in fidelity. May every citizen pursue his own work that makes for peace and not the things that make for division. Bless all efforts which are made to educate our people in Christian idealism. O may they go forth to teach and to be taught. In all hearts stimulate the word of the Master and forbid that they should rest in the outer courts of His wonderful teaching. To such who have been spared, to such who have been delivered from great affliction, to such who have been blest with the tidings of great mercies—to all such, our Heavenly Father, give grateful hearts. To-day the door of the past is open and we hear the shrieks of war's toll and unspeakable tragedy. O God of wisdom, bless us with Thy eternal truth that is still struggling with the darkness—that war is un-Christian. Come Thou to all lands. May ignorance and superstition and false ambitions flee away and may all nations come to their liberty, peace, and brotherhood, and let the whole earth be regenerated through Him who is the wonderful Counselor, the mighty God, the everlasting Father, and the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Thursday November 14 1929

GREAT AND MARVELOUS are Thy works, Almighty God. Do Thou lead our thoughts up to Thee by the sweet memories we recall, by the Providence which has cared for us, by the experiences of our

own souls, and by the quiet and calm of the secret place. Dear Lord, look upon every heart and supply it with that quickening spirit which will bear the soul peace and the sense of forgiveness. Grant Thy complete blessing in yonder hospital upon him who fills a large place in the counsels of the Nation. Through sighs, through the depths of affliction, and through the shadows may he come. Comfort the hearthstone, and may it not be called to bear unspeakable sorrow and drink the bitter cup. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday November 18 1929

O Lord, teach us to pray; bless us with its true spirit. While our breath is in our nostrils it behooves us to remember that Thou art infinite in wisdom and holiness. Back of all is the tremendous truth that Thou art a sovereign God. A long time ago, out of the flaming mountains came the voice, "I am the Lord thy God!" O make us more susceptible to Thy presence, our conscience more tender and our spiritual discriminations clearer. Keep us in vital relationship with Thee as our Father, wherein there is perfect accord with Thy purposes. O do Thou impress us that the fear of God is wisdom and to keep His commandments is understanding. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Thursday November 21 1929

Thy name, O Lord God, abides; it is eternal. The angels and the archangels and all the hosts of heaven and earth unite in praises to Thy name in the thrice holy chorus: "Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty!" O teach us through this song how to find wisdom in ignorance, strength in weakness, rest in sorrow, and light in darkness. Before Thee we confess our failures and our sins. O blessed hope, sweet comfort, and peace beyond understanding. We praise Him through whose dying

love and blissful presence we are enabled to trust truth, purity, integrity, and benevolence. Through the Christ these are the abiding realities of life. Amen.

Friday November 22 1929

WE PRAY, DEAR LORD, that our first love in its purity, sweetness, and freshness may be laid on the altar of our homes. Around and about them may the deepest affairs of our lives revolve, as do planets about the sun. Go before them with the blessings of goodness, happiness, and peace. O bless them with a father's counsel and with a mother's heart. We are so thankful for their devotion, which nothing can lessen, whose faithfulness is as loyal as it is unselfish and whose fidelity many waters can not drown. Yes, Father, take our lives for time and eternity into Thy hands, into the hands of Him who hath loved us with an eternal love and who waits to crown us with the blessing of everlasting joy. Amen.

Second Session

Monday December 2 1929

O THOU who dwellest in the heavens and in the earth, Thou art a great God and greatly to be praised. Thou dost guide the course of our institutions, and Thy wisdom is exemplified in the sanctity and genius of our Republic; therefore we praise Thee. Our God and our Father, we beseech Thee at the very beginning of this session of our National Congress that we may be deeply conscious of our responsibilities and give worthy proof of the trust and the confidence imposed in us. Day by day direct us in the things that make for good citizenship and that lead to the higher values of our national life. Do Thou inspire every Member with the ideals of the Galilean Teacher, to emulate His virtues and to walk worthy of the great vocation to which our country has called us. Endow us with great moral qualities, powers, and virtues. Holy Spirit, command the thought and the affections of

our souls. O lead us to think imperially, recognizing ourselves as part of mankind, and may we give every evidence of the very best and wisest statesmanship. Safeguard our land, and do Thou bring in the reign of peace and brotherhood throughout the world. Bestow Thy gracious favor on our President and his hearthstone. O God, abide in our homes and bless them with health and happiness, and Thine shall be the glory and the honor forever. Amen.

Tuesday December 3 1929

THE LORD GOD give us hope, faith, and purpose to so live that each of us shall be a blessing to our fellow men. Bless every act that starts a new influence for Thee and for our country. We ask Thee to teach us that wisdom that shall enable us to be useful for truth, for honor, for goodness, for fidelity, and for genuine manliness. Redeem our land from self-indulgence and from destructive materialism, and bring it into the full light and knowledge of that truth that shall make it permanently free and strong. Bless us this day with that quietude and tranquillity of spirit that come from the infinite heart of the Father of us all—through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday December 4 1929

OUR FATHER, we thank Thee for the daily mercies that fall from Thine almighty solitude. Thou art infinitely greater than the greatest of our conceptions. To Thee we bring our weakness and ignorance even as the night comes to the morning. From Thee may we learn justice, honor, and truth, and teach us to fulfill our vows and endue us with all grace and power. Lift us above the tendencies of our mortal state and keep us steadfast in our integrity, in our faith, and in our trust in God. Father in heaven, make it easy for us to love, to forgive, and to help those who are in distress. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday
December 5
1929

EVER-BLESSED GOD, this moment let us receive something more precious than anything in all the world can give—a knowledge that shall make the day wiser and our aspirations more earnest and sincere. Thou hast the first claim to our ambitions, for we are created in Thy likeness and image. Bless us this day with a pleasure that we can not define and with a satisfaction that can not be analyzed. Raise us up as the hardy servants of the Republic, with force, wisdom, and endurance. If we have sinned or failed, do Thou take away their shame and confusion and remember them against us no more. We pray in the Savior's name. Amen.

Friday
December 6
1929

THINK OF US AND FOR US, DEAR LORD, and in every emergency enable us to say "Thy will be done." Here may we trust and rest until we pass the veil, the shadows flee, and the morning comes. O Sun of Righteousness, arise with healing in Thy beams, and bring morning hope and morning promise where there is now the night of sorrow. Oh, the grief—the hidden grief! Heal and give grace to bear it and vouchsafe the comforting presence of Thy Holy Spirit unto all who mourn. Sanctify unto them Thy immortal truth, and may the blessed time come when they shall see face to face and eye to eye with unspeakable joy. Let Thy name be glorified in the midst of all the people and gather them together—one in love, one in hope, and one in faith. Amen.

Saturday
December 7
1929

WE THANK THEE, BLESSED FATHER, for that miracle of power and grace which bestows upon us rational life and mercy. Thy gentleness and tenderness are such that the bruised reed Thou wilt not break and the smoking flax Thou wilt not quench. Enter Thou into the deepest places of our natures and purify the unhallowed elements smoldering

there. We pray that knowledge, love, and the fear of God may soften the harsh, sweeten the bitter, and broaden the narrow. Then shall we be able to speak and act with the godly spirit of obedience and charity, and the Christian ideal be allowed to express its sovereign perfection in that rapturous confession, "I delight to do Thy will, O God." Amen.

Monday December 9 1929

O Thou blessed Lord, we commend to Thee this waiting assembly. Wilt Thou make manifest to each Member and officer all that is needed this day for health, for strength, and for wisdom. If any are conscious of burdens or cares which they can not well endure, may they find stealing upon them the hidden presence of God. We pray for those conditions in our lives out of which come spiritual knowledge and understanding. Even teach us as little children. In humility, obedience, and gratitude suit all hearts to all circumstances. We pray finally for our country, for all lands; and throughout the world may the new earth appear wherein dwelleth righteousness and truth. In the Father's name. Amen.

Tuesday December 10 1929

O King of Love, to whom we are indebted for life with all its mercies and hopes and to whom we owe our devoted allegiance, crown our thoughts with clear conception and good motives; thus fortified may we strive earnestly toward the ideals of the Great Teacher. In all this complicated life inspire us by His illustrious example. With prompt efficiency may we fulfill our daily duties. In our moods, in our meditations, and in our communions lift us above temporary pleasure and emotion; yes, Father, lead us above the common currents and make us to dwell above the contagion of earthly conflict. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
December 11
1929

DRAW NEAR to every one of us, dear Father in heaven. May the blessing of this day take our thoughts to Thy mercy seat; in humble and perfect confidence we would submit ourselves to Thee and conform our wills in the spirit of gratitude and obedience. We call upon Thee in the wonder, mystery, and conflict of life. O God, save us from ourselves; keep our hands clean and our hearts pure. Separate us from every carnal and compromising motive, and all that we are and have, may they be consecrated to the law and will of God. O awaken in us the old love, the old trust, and the old memories of home and childhood, and bless and inspire us with their sweet and heavenly benedictions. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday
December 12
1929

FOREVER, O LORD, Thy word is settled in heaven; we pray that it may be fixed throughout the whole world. Again Thou hast set us clear and safe in a new day, in a new hope, and in a new prospect. Anchor our purest thoughts and the very souls of our moral beings. Imperative labor is ours. It is the spirit of the heroic that gilds the soul and gives it worth; let it not prove too hard; in it may we lift up our heads and consider our permanent heritage. We pray that law and order, duty and restraint, obedience and discipline with our fellow citizens may make secure the fundamentals of our Government. Amen.

Friday
December 13
1929

ALMIGHTY GOD, we acknowledge Thee to be our everlasting Father. The source from whom all blessings flow—we trace straight back to a good God. Thou hast made human life very sacred and of infinite value. We believe that Thou dost care and Thou dost accept the daily offerings that we bring to the altar of prayer. We praise Thee that this gra-

cious recognition is for all, anywhere and everywhere. O come from behind the visible matter and the invisible energy which are about us and breathe upon our hopes, our ideals, and our wills, and cause them to live anew and go forth in the name of our beloved Republic. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Saturday December 14 1929

Eternal God, our Father, we approach Thee not because we are good but because we need Thee to make us so. Thou and Thou alone art the fountain of eternal goodness. We do thank Thee that there is nothing that is able to separate us from Thy love, which is infinitely broader and deeper than the measure of man's mind. By countless blessings and a thousand thousand things Thou art calling us. Teach us how to use sorrow when it comes, disappointment when it is sent, and chastisement when it is upon us. Bless us with the fruits of the Spirit, which are love, joy, peace, and long-suffering. These augment our powers, enlarge our strength, and enable us to stand in our own divinely inspired liberty. Hear our prayer for the sake of our Savior. Amen.

Monday December 16 1929

Grant unto us, O God, the power of that influence that shall go forth clean and deathless. Give us desire to rise above working hours to the high hill country of the Spirit. O lead us to serve the divine order and the spiritual ends of our natures. Widen our horizon to where thoughts exhaust their wonder and where our souls have full sway in the genius of love and truth. Unto us Thou hast committed our task and our responsibility. He who is faithful to the inner voice is conscious of a happiness that nourishes his whole being and of an approval from the Lord of life and of destiny. Hear us, our Heavenly Father. Amen.

Tuesday
December 17
1929

WE PRAISE THEE, O GOD, that while the ages have come and gone no higher ideal has ever been given to the children of men than that expressed and exemplified by Jesus of Nazareth. He still remains as the ethical standard toward which the world must look; His star is in the firmament of humanity's hope. As nations are in commotion, O may they look upward and with trembling appeal find in Him their very souls; in their doubt and dread He will come into their lives. God Almighty, we would that all men everywhere would proclaim Him the Lawgiver of heaven and earth. Glory be unto His excellent name. Amen.

Wednesday
December 18
1929

OUR LORD, OUR LIFE, AND YET OUR FATHER, hear us as we renew our vows. To devote ourselves to the task of obeying Thy will and precepts and to serve our country with fidelity and skill—this is our prayer. To enter into coveted relationship with Thee is our desire. We would recall Thy word: "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse." Inspire us to bring to this Chamber, memorable in our Nation's history, our tithes of time, tithes of energy, and tithes of understanding; thus may we prove and praise Thee. May we have the heart of sympathy, love, and helpfulness for all who come our way. In the name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Thursday
December 19
1929

WE PRAISE THEE, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, for the wonderful story of Thy deathless love. We thank Thee for the beauty and the mercy of Thy daily message, which transcends all argument. The Lord God help us not to forget it. We pray that it may continue until our hearts are wooed and won and the last particle of ingratitude has passed

out of our lives. By the moral and spiritual force which it wields let us be directed and molded. Purify our minds from the dross of selfish passion and interests and bring us into that state in which motives are created from a high appreciation of the public service. Feed our deeper selves until the earthly is consciously linked to the heavenly. Through the Christ our Savior. Amen.

If the Lord be God, follow Him.

Friday December 20 1929

FATHER IN HEAVEN, let not these words rebuke us. But in the mercy of our daily lives, in words of prayer and praise at Thy altar, may we express our allegiance to Thee. May we so witness for the ideals of the Master that we shall not be misunderstood. The bravest and the truest that the world has ever known were those who feared Thee and not another. In our thoughts, words, and deeds may gratitude and truth meet each other. Again we wait in the dark, dark shadows; again we face life's greatest problem; again we are speechless. O divine mercy, do not fail to give comfort to the stricken home. May Heaven's heart be open to succor and support, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday December 21 1929

AGAIN, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, our finite natures stand in helpless silence before the infinite fullness of the world's Savior. We can tell but little of what we feel and think; but read our hearts. We unite them with the angels' chorus and thank Thee for the sweep and the scope of Mary's Child. To know and to love and to do His perfect will is the highest blessedness of man. By Him the old law has been touched and humanity is lyric with praise as it approaches the manger altar. The shadows of sin and

sorrow have fallen across the world, and their jarring ceases as we near the foreglow of His bright and morning star, the most brilliant of all the orbs that glorify the night. O may He adjust our faculties and melodies by His enriching and inrushing power. O Thou whose halo is the light of the timeless past, be in our homes, that happiness may have no trouble to bloom; be with our children, and may they be undisturbed in goodness and sweetness, and let the beauty of the Lord fall upon all our hearthstones.

O Lord God, extend Thine arms and shield and bless our President, the Speaker, the Members, the officers, and the pages of this Congress. May they all enjoy the world and after a while enjoy the world's eternity. Amen.

Monday
January 6
1930

WE THANK THEE, LORD GOD, that the way to Thee is so plain that we need not err. Struggling with human passions and imperfect natures, we praise Thee that through Thy Holy Spirit we may walk our way in the spirit of love and trust. Thou art our refuge in times of adversity and a shield in the moment of temptation. Thus guarded, we would bear testimony of our grateful hearts. Clothe us with patience, increase our power of faith, and give us control of the circumstances which surround us. May we work and dwell together in the unity of confidence and allow distrust and unwise hindrances to pass away. O may mutual trust and good will prevail in this Congress. We continue, our Heavenly Father, and pray: Oh, blessed is he who can serenely look back, who works wisely in the present, and who realizes that his real possessions are in the new year, across the threshold of whose temple we have now passed. With the past revealed and facing the future, may we take no counsel of fear, but remember that we have been elevated to a great position of authority. There-

fore, by act and example, let our work flame forth over our country and the world for the good and peace of all peoples. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday January 8 1930

Our God and our Redeemer, we thank Thee for all Thy heavenly providences. In Thee there is healing for every pain, food for every human, happiness for every heart, and salvation for every soul. Thou art a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, and following Thy star we shall leave behind the din of strife and struggle and enter into the promised land of industry, liberty, and law. Let these sing their way into our earthly life. We thank Thee for Thy all-seeing eye and for the fathomless love that dwells in the heart of the Eternal. O let us behold the light of Thy countenance in the face of the forgiven and on the visage of the strong men whose souls are all aflame with righteous courage and intelligent conviction. We pray in the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Thursday January 9 1930

O pitying, loving God, how marvelous is Thy patience. Thou art our Creator; be Thou our Comforter and our Savior. Out of discipline and out of limitation do Thou call us, that we may praise and magnify Thee in thought, feeling, and will. Take our affections, and may they be swallowed up in Thine. Thou who canst bring forth from the mute, unpromising earth, bring forth out of our hearts the blossom and fruit of love and peace. Look with rich blessing upon Thy people of every name. Let all darkness flee, and with it ignorance, cruelty, and every evil thing. O let our whole land see Thy salvation. Our Father, hear our prayer as it falls through muted lips. She has gone and left him. As she lay in his loving arms, so pure and tender, her spiritual and immortal love-

liness was as fair and rich as the angels'. Remember him with the weeping face, the breaking heart, marred and bruised with the experience of long suffering. Chant for him the sublime strains of peace and victory as they come through the winding shadows of the tomb. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday
January 10
1930

OUR FATHER, let Thy blessing of approval rest upon the labors of to-day. If any Member is sick or in peril, may he be withdrawn from its danger, and those who are safe may they be maintained in their safety. May the power of Thy truth elevate us and let contentment follow its acquisition. Disclose and make plain the duties that we owe Thee, ourselves, and our country. Do Thou have compassion upon any who may be in the shadows and whose doubts and fears are more than their joys. This day, blessed Lord, help us to gain strength in all those virtues that make us better men. In the holy name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Saturday
January 11
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, we are the recipients every day of Thy bounty; we thank Thee. As Thou art so good to us, may we be united in heart with those who suffer and are far away. Join us in a blessed unity with Thee for the extension of Thy kingdom everywhere. Upon every institution of our great land let Thy blessing come; may intelligence, tolerance, and charity prevail. O let the great light of Christian beneficence become the defender of the helpless and to those who are toiling in oppression. Touched by Thy divine Spirit, may we live in our higher natures, and thus have dominion over appetite, selfishness, pride, and every evil passion that is in the soul. Allied to one another by common weakness and common dependence, may we be

slow to disclose the imperfections and the faults of others. May we never wear the veiled face of self-righteousness. In the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday January 13 1930

O Judge and Maker of all men, we thank Thee that we do not live underneath an empty heaven or upon a soulless earth. Thou dost support us with the certainties and the realities of faith and hope, and we therefore approach Thee with unutterable gratitude and reverence. Do Thou inspire us to cultivate those high qualities which are requisite to give character proper strength, dignity, and worth. Let knowledge come, and may wisdom linger; bless us with that gentleness of soul that makes real men. Be with us and stay with us and keep us from discouragement and destructive doubt and fear. Always through Thy guidance keep our minds and hearts open and free to the evidence of Thy holy teaching. Amen.

Tuesday January 14 1930

Our blessed, blessed Father in heaven, do Thou accept our gratitude for the promise, for the opportunity, and for the intercourse of this new day. Thou who dost care for us, make this day blessed. O thou of a faithful heart, O thou who hast given to home and country all that soul can give, O thou who hast the witness in thyself that all the aims of thy life are for good, for thee, O soul, this day is blessed. O God, let Thy will be done, and let it become strong and potential. Bless all our land and all our States. May this Union be strong not for selfishness or aggression or self-aggrandizement but that it may be a light and inspiration to the weary, to the struggling, and a refuge of happiness for all. Through Christ. Amen.

Wednesday
January 15
1930

BE THOU EXALTED, O GOD. While our fears and hopes have struggled together, Thou hast dealt with us wondrously. We, therefore, witness to Thy goodness. Knowing how feeble we are in things high and how strong we are in things prone to the world, we do not desire to stand in Thy way. Draw us into life deeper, sweeter, and more full of knowledge; lift us to the realm of the grace of God. Turn our affections steadfastly toward Thee; and O Thou blessed Savior of love, sympathy, and patience, be the bread of life to our hunger and all in all to the sanctity of human life. Amen.

Thursday
January 16
1930

WE HAVE SWEET SATISFACTION, our Father in heaven, in Thy daily mercies and in a consummation which doth bring to us thoughts of Thy care. We would pray for a disposition to improve Thy dealings with us for our spiritual and everlasting good. Strengthen those supreme moral sentiments of our souls, which are faith and hope, and make love high above either of these and above all other things, for love is God. Establish us in purity and in integrity, and may they expel our lower feelings and rectify and cleanse us from all evil. We pray in the name of our Savior. Amen.

Friday
January 17
1930

ACCEPT THE UNUTTERED ADORATION of our deepest feelings, blessed Lord God; carry us forward into realms beyond our present knowledge and understanding, for we would look forward as men look toward the morning. So inspire us with the high conception of the riches of Thy mercy that Thy name may become with us a name of power, of hope and comfort. May we breathe Thy gentleness and Thy loving-kindness and the spirit of self-sacrifice. Bless the President of these United States and this Congress. Unite all our people and restrain and suppress all evils of passion and unruly desire.

Illuminate us with the light of Thy love, with perfect trust, and help us to perform the tasks in life's hard school. Amen.

Saturday January 18 1930

We know in part, but Thou dost not love in part, our Father—Thou dost reveal Thyself in a way that defies argument. Thou art love, and it resists definition. Only the loving heart can know Thee, O God. Open the way that leads to our moral affections; take our conscience, thought, and will and make them all Thine own that we may honor our station and prove our high estate; fortify our very souls and strengthen them for wise and just attainment. Righteousness is not weak and nerveless but strong and heroic; open unto us its highway, and we shall call its walls salvation and its gates praise, for out of them shall flow the streams of benevolence and justice that sweeten the waters of life. In Thy holy name. Amen.

Monday January 20 1930

O Thou divine and blessed Father, who lovest us more than we love ourselves, may we be learners in Thy school of wisdom, so that in the royalty of intelligence and in the gentleness of affection we shall understand Thy purpose in men. O Thou Lord of lords, we pray for the whole world, across which the nations have passed in their migrations and armies in their conquests. Come and reign on the entire earth. Fulfill Thy decrees and bring to pass happy and safe years of world peace and cooperation. Be at the round table of the conference beyond our borders, and be above charter, treaty, and tradition. Take out of the way all hindrances, that force of Christian precepts may be augmented and that the work of international understanding may make haste toward completion. O God, sovereign in love and sovereign in power, we pray that all peoples may know Thee and submit themselves

to Thy will, and may the whole earth be brought into closer relationship and become the garden of the Lord, over which shall hover the holy dove of peace instead of the dark raven of war. We pray in the name of the Man of Galilee. Amen.

Tuesday
January 21
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, draw us toward Thyself with growing knowledge and bring us to righteousness and virtue out of our sin and transgression. What a friend Thou art, blessed Father; no one in all the world waits for us with such patience and sympathy. Thou art ever wakeful, ever labor-bearing, and ever enduring to the end. May we be kept very near to Thee with better and better refreshment of soul. Thou hast infinite rest within Thyself; give peace and rest to all, especially the unfortunate ones. Through sunshine and storm, through strife and struggle, over wave and through the sea, lead us on, and we will ascribe to Thee praises forever. Amen.

Wednesday
January 22
1930

WE TURN TO THY THRONE, O GOD, to bear testimony of Thy goodness, which is an ever-flowing stream. All majesty and all power are in Thy throne. Thou art infinite light whose beams shine forth forevermore; Thou art infinite love, which is blessing and serving man everywhere. We praise Thee that it is Thy infinite nature to do these things. We thank Thee that Thy strength is for human weakness, that Thy purity is for human sin, and Thy mercy is for human selfishness. We rebuke ourselves for our narrow ranges of life; forgive us. Bestow upon her this day Thy comfort and peace—the one who has just lost a devoted and distinguished mother. May she be sustained by the abiding consciousness of the glory of the life that is to come. Amen.

Thursday January 23 1930

Be gracious unto us, our Father, according to our necessity and according to Thy generosity. Bless us with the intimations of Thy presence, so that we shall find ourselves beloved of God. We thank Thee that as our lives pass on they are ladened from above with the ineffable. We pray for all the nations. Unite them in confidence, in cooperation of labor, and in the sacrifice of national selfishness. O may laws, institutions, and governments everywhere be reformed, and may mankind be transformed by leaving behind the power of the flesh. Be with us to-day in the fullness of the blessing of our Jehovah Father. Amen.

Friday January 24 1930

O Thou infinite One, Thy presence is the sanctuary of love. With all our manifold weaknesses and with the consciousness of many transgressions, we bring ourselves before Thee. We praise Thee that it is Thy nature to nourish imperfection, to forgive iniquity, and to bear us on to the perfect day. Dear Lord, in these days of much suffering and hardship, open the hearts of our people to be bountiful; to spend and to be spent for the sake of the poor and distressed. O that the holy name of the Master may no longer divide but bring together. Do Thou lead the Christian nations of the globe to set the example of nobility, generosity, justice, purity, and truth. O blessed Lord God, inspire them not in a mere crusade but in a wonderful ministry to manhood and in a new brotherhood born of a fine appreciation of all peoples the world over. Amen.

Saturday January 25 1930

Eternal God, our Father, may all Members and officers of this Congress be led to do the best things in the wisest way and without irritation. Grant that each one in aspiration, in hope, and in gladness may have that guidance that shall make life a

joyous pilgrimage. We look back through the years and draw for the future faith and fear not. All the purposes of divine mercy which are yet unrevealed will overflow all our needs. By meekness, by gentleness, and by humility help us to breathe the spirit of the Great Teacher and interpret to men His rule of life. In all our errands and in every achievement give us cheerfulness and the laughter of happy hearts. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday
January 27
1930

HEAVENLY FATHER, we pray for Thy blessing upon us, upon those who are feeble in faith, upon those whose minds are perplexed, upon those who are weary in body. May all arise to a high conception of Thy fatherhood. By faith may joy possess sorrow, hope be more than fear, and bring victory out of defeat. We pray that Thy truth may search out all motives and emotions and that we may be made willingly and lovingly inclined to walk in Thy ways. Forgive our sins and our infirmities and help us to cast them out and successfully contend with all evil. In Thy holy name we pray. Amen.

Tuesday
January 28
1930

BLESSED BE THY NAME, O Lord most high, for Thine infinite goodness and for Thy condescension toward all Thy children. We thank Thee for another day, which is a door by which we may enter upon our chosen task, perform the unselfish act, and live the beautiful life. At the very summits of our beings may we know the unknowable, see the unseen, and, though of this earth, yet lose ourselves in God. Ever keep open the pathway of our dearest longings and our purest desires. We would accept and make Thee the outward and unselfish aim of our lives. Bless our children and friends, for they are the dearest treasures of earth. Let unbroken love and everlasting joy crown every head. Amen.

Wednesday January 29 1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou art the Father of all humanity; so with diligence and courage we will do our duty and go straightforward. Whatever may happen, may we be determined to overcome all difficulties. Encourage us to be good, brave, and kind-hearted, deserving the honor the Republic has shown us. The Lord God be with our country, and may our citizens ever be wise to the fact that the strength of a nation is in the intelligent, well-ordered homes of the people. In our labor and toil—yes, even in the crises of life—if all else fails, O may our hearthstones reenforce us with that faith and hope that nothing can disturb. Amen.

Thursday January 30 1930

WE APPROACH THEE in repentance and confession. Hear us, gracious Master, dwell in fellowship with our souls, exalt our ideals, enlarge our vision, fill the veins of our thoughts with the throbbings of immortal courage, and lift us into the very presence of God. Take our entire country under Thy guidance. Thou art calling us not by the whispered vision of the night but loudly thundered by the voice of the day. Yes, Thou art calling us to help, not by the might of arms or the conquest of commerce but by the sovereignty of service. O God, our noblest triumph will be in the expansion of our holy faith in the world's Savior. Persuade us, we pray, that to save our own land we must help save the world. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday January 31 1930

WE PRAISE THEE, OUR EVERLASTING GOD, that Thy mercies still survive, endure, and cling until the end of life. Thy loving heart never fails to be beneficent and heavenly in its benedictions. Oh, we trust the power that makes the mother and her child. They mark the boundary of all earthly love and sacrifice. It is a wonderful guaranty, and to our hearts it is like the honey in the cleft of the rock.

Spirit Divine, possess us and work in us that beauteous change, namely, from love of wrong to love of right. When we fail let us not be disheartened, for being patient and persevering what we do imperfectly here we shall do perfectly yonder. Through Christ our blessed Savior. Amen.

Saturday February 1 1930

O GOD, infinite and eternal in Thy being, Thy mercy we accept without defense. Thou dost care for the need of the childhood of the world; it transcends all earthliness; Thou art Lord of all and yet servant of all. Let Thy truth run through the arteries of our moral natures, that it may clothe us with the spirit of the conqueror. In the great, kingly qualities of the soul may we not fail but arouse and stir them, and do Thou crown us as the servants of God. O Thou who hast borne all burdens, bear with our sin and helplessness, and be a strength to the faint and a joy to the weary. May we never barter away noble character, peace of soul, and immortal joy for anything in all this world. Amen.

Monday February 3 1930

OUR FATHER, as calm believers in manifest destiny, we would give thought to the high purposes of our Lord; we would abide in His shadow and rejoice in God. O blest is he to whom is given the knowledge that Thou art the nearest when most invisible. Each day be Thou our determining authority. From all tyranny of mind and heart do Thou deliver us. Out of such experience is born the wisdom which fortifies our station. Multiply the strength and the influence of all institutions that succor and care for the unfortunate. Bless us with the knowledge of Thy saving grace and dwell with us and all Thy people everywhere, and God Himself shall have the glory. Amen.

Tuesday February 4 1930

Thou art still with us, our Heavenly Father. Our lives are Thine, and all that gives us character is breathed upon us by the divine presence; we thank Thee. We do desire to rise above limitations and all those conditions on which we are tempted to act unwisely. While we have power, freedom, and liberty may we have them in restraint and understand that our highest duty is not to offend the least or the humblest of Thy children. We pray for all nations, that national policies may not oppress or hurt. May their rulers know that all strength is ordained for the defense of human weakness. Endow us with power without selfishness, conviction without bigotry, and self-respect without vanity. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday February 5 1930

Almighty God, in our duties make the path plain to our vision. Thou who givest wisdom to all who ask, having loved Thine own, Thou dost love them unto the end. Coming to Thee, we would discern what we should be. We would take no ignoble conception of life, character, or duty. O teach us the way, and help us to walk in those virtues which shall be glorious through all eternity. Forgive our delays and imperfections. Again, our Father, we pause; we feel the shadows of the great adventure; the Nation's head bows—that most lovable man, gentle jurist, and great statesman is sick, we fear, unto death. In victory and defeat his fellow countrymen take him to the altar of their hearts; he abides in the sanctuary of their breasts. O how he abounded in riches of soul—even our night song praises the Lord as we feel the glow of his wonderful character. O Father of sympathy and consolation, be about yonder hearthstone as it is overcast by heavy grief. In the anguish of her distress may she discern Thee. Let not sorrow strike the shield

of her faith. Be with her in quietness and in confidence, fearing no to-morrow, for Thou art infinite love. Amen.

Thursday February 6 1930

OUR GRACIOUS FATHER, Thou hast added another day to our lives; as we grow in age may we grow in knowledge and wisdom. We thank Thee that we are the children of the Most High and heirs of immortality and that we are not fatherless and forlorn, drifting on an uncharted and unpiloted sea. Through dark and bright, defeat can not daunt or dishearten, for Thou art the Lord God of Hosts, whose mercy, power, and holiness are from everlasting to everlasting. We pray for the presence of the Holy Spirit, that He may work in us and bring us in unison with eternal right, which is the will of God. Then the love of wrong will be changed to the love of right. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday February 7 1930

O LORD, OUR LORD GOD, enrich us with a fuller knowledge of all Thy Works, for in them Thy goodness flows around our incompleteness. Father, there are still clinging to us fears and doubts, faiths and hopes, longings and aspirations which no human power can allay or satisfy. O hear us and be at the altar of every heart, thou known God and our everlasting Father. Restore our souls by that quiet communion in sweet solitude which can not be uttered and where it will fall on other than God's ears. Give us more faith in truth, and let righteousness with its purifying streams of power and tranquillity move upon our country and all lands. In the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

Saturday February 8 1930

WE KNOW THAT OUR REDEEMER LIVETH; praise God. Come with us to-day with calm assurance. Thou art not only our Creator but our divine

earthly Father. Not until love lies dead and memory is deaf and the door of the past is closed, not until hope has lost its outlook and aspiration is perishing in despair, and not until all that makes men noble lies in dust can the flame of infinite love be extinguished. Keep before us the high standards of gentleness, chastity, and forgiveness as they are revealed in Thy Holy Word. If we have affliction, may it mellow our hearts and open them toward humanity and make us more patient with the failings of other men. Amen.

Monday February 10 1930

Hear us, O Father; forgive our transgressions and let come to every one of us that reverence, that faith, that fine emotion that tells us that Thou art near. If there has come into any lives the hour of weariness, the unsuccessful endeavor, the disappointed hope or the baffled purpose, O may they not lose heart. Unto them may there come the inspiration of a better day and give them recompense. The Lord God be with all these Thy servants and the servants of the Republic, and may their work be so impressive that it shall live in high appreciation upon the imperishable pages of history. Inspire us all to intellectual achievement and in the very best expression of thought, truth, and action. In Thy name we pray. Amen.

Tuesday February 11 1930

Direct us, our Heavenly Father, to employ our knowledge and the influence of our position, to which our country has exalted us, in obedient endeavor to do good. Work in us both to will and to do Thy good pleasure. Endow us with a genuine, sincere, honest, and hearty purpose to serve Thee and the Republic. We ask to know Thy will toward us; then may we love to follow it. Then, above all, the sounds of time will be the note of triumph, for Thou wilt bring us off more than conquerors. In

future years the sweetest note of our immortal song shall be: "He hath done all things well." For Thy name's sake, hear our prayer. Amen.

If the Lord be God, follow Him.

Wednesday February 12 1930

O LET NOT THESE WORDS rebuke us, but in gratitude, in words of prayer, and bowed at Thy altar may we confess our sins and declare our allegiance to Thee. Forbid that we should go forth alone; be Thou our Lord, our life, and our glory. We thank Thee for the great men who are the heritage of our land. To-day a peerless soul sits by the fireside of our country's heart. He never spoke to widen the chasm but always to heal the breach. O Lord God, while that voice so wise in counsel is hushed, while the hand that guided the destinies of our Republic has fallen, and while great events can not break his calm repose, O may we, the living, renew our pledge of patriotic devotion and fidelity at this Capitol shrine and work and pray for the Nation's highest good. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday February 13 1930

OUR FATHER, from whom all blessings flow, Thou dost continue to pour abroad divine beneficence and Thy patience and mercies transcend our greatest conception. We ask Thee to interpret for us our daily tasks and duties. O Thou who dost breathe upon the whole creation, reveal Thyself unto those who seek the truth. In our affections, in our friendships, and in our labors may we have the underlying strength of God. We pray for this Congress and the entire citizenship of our Republic. As the nations are looking toward us may intemperate indulgence and ambition be destroyed. Come to every heart and fill it with love and give to every human faculty divine power. Amen.

Friday February 14 1930

Gracious God, be with us yet, lest we forget. With us the years rush on and we must make haste, but Thou dwellest in the eternities and in the boundlessness of Thine estate. Thou art infinitely more than human thought can conceive. Thou knowest, Father, how little we understand in saying it, for it so transcends every measure we have on earth. We praise Thee for this truth, that wherever we are there is the wonder-working power of Thy goodness. Oh, in the light, joy, and bounty of Thy love we would not cease to give Thee thanks. Over all sorrow, all troubles, all disappointments, and all labors sustain us with a sense of Thy great wisdom and Thy all-inclusive mercy. We pray in the name of the world's Redeemer. Amen.

Saturday February 15 1930

O Lord and our God, for the sake of ourselves, our homes, our country, and for the sake of mankind, of which we are a part, we tarry at the altar of prayer and praise. At this time may our Nation appear before peoples of the earth with such self-restraint and for such consideration for those who are weak and with such a conception of the nobility of power that all men may love liberty and know the source from which it comes. Be Thou our remedy for that which is wrong, our guide toward that which is right, and our help in those emergencies for which human strength is vain. This day keep our thoughts clean, our hearts pure, and our demeanor upright. Amen.

Monday February 17 1930

O Lord our God, Thou dost still abide with us and we are still sheltered by divine care. Grant unto us power to give ascendency to our better selves and help us to walk in the light, as Thou art in the light. We need a strong faith to believe in Thee, that good shall yet prevail and that avarice and dominating passions shall yet be put away and

destroyed. We bring ourselves at Thy altar, because Thou has declared that Thou art the way, the truth, and the life. O pity our poor and fitful conceptions of Thee. Quicken all those native forces in us by which we may discern, know, and believe that Thou art our Heavenly Father, full of love and compassion. Do for us this day exceeding abundantly more than we ask. In Thy name and for Thy glory. Amen.

Tuesday
February 18
1930

BLESSED BE THOU, O LORD OUR GOD, for all the revealed and hidden treasure that is in Thy holy name. We know of no justice that is a fit emblem for Thy justice, and there is no love in all the wide world that is so tender and enduring as Thy love; and far, far beyond any conception or thought of ours is Thy mercy. Oh, what glory will come to our souls when they shall be free to understand—purged, enlarged, and forever with the Lord! We beseech Thee to fill us with sacred impulse that overflows in goodness, that restrains passions, and that directs a wisely ordered life, so that others may see our good works and be led to glorify our Father which is in heaven. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
February 19
1930

O THOU to whom we look for mercy and care, give to us that sensibility to love which time can not touch and which the world can not smother. We shall then be strong with guardianship in the thought of God. As we approach Thee we would that we were worthier. Be with us and fill us with perseverance to achieve good things in life, in courage, and in wisdom. With thankful hearts may we stand to-day in the free air of heaven and with our feet on God's free earth, and thank our Heavenly Father for the simple luxury of living. Always help us to appreciate that nothing of great worth can be

accomplished with half a mind, a faint heart, or with a lame endeavor. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday February 20 1930

O God, the source of our eternal hopes, which beat evermore in our breasts and cling to where the angels keep their ancient places, hear our prayer. O withdraw not from us that which is our shield and our defense. We praise Thee that while the clouds drift and dissolve, the stars abide and shine on. Each day impresses us with the great commission intrusted to us. We thank Thee for the wealth of meaning in those immortal words, "I am the light of the world." They are unequaled in their comfort as we journey across the continent of our years. Thou art our Father, and the silver cord that binds us to Thy heart will never be broken. Amen.

Friday February 21 1930

Our Father, little by little show us the beauty of Thy truth. Lighten our eyes and help us to read Thy presence in our gladness and in our sorrow. O bless us with the patient, cheerful, and healing ways of Thy Holy Spirit. O Lord, take the mysteries of our hearts, the spiritual forces that breathe them, the hidden desires that impel them, and drop into them the pure dews of a good life. Bless the common hopes that bind us together, and in the stress and strain of duty may we never lose the comradeship of Him who is destined to become the center of the world's night. Give us the benediction of that peace which rests and radiates in the silent stars. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Saturday February 22 1930

In Thee, Father of mercies, we have a refuge that gives blessed quiet. When the flame of our hearts burn low, the thought that we are Thy children makes faith and hope survive. O God of our

fathers, bless our native land, we pray, for there is no spot so dear or sacred in all the earth. It is consecrated ground, made so by the valiant and sacrificial past; it is all billowy with the graves of the sons and daughters of freedom. That devotion was supremely fleshed in that Virginian who bowed at the altar of the appealing Colonies with his earthly store and thereby made possible the creation of the Republic. He gave soul to the regimentals. In him was the iron of the eternal mountains, and the granite of the everlasting hills was his also. We thank Thee that he journeyed this way. O God, bless unto us to-day the memorable chivalry of our forefathers; they were schooled in the oracles of the Eternal. From their belief in Thee there streamed forth invincible courage, and from it sprang their magnificent enthusiasm; thus they matched and mastered the rulers of the world. They were the prophets of God and liberty. With these giants of mind and conscience in our vision, we turn to the banks of the Potomac and say: "Put thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground." In the name of our Jehovah God. Amen.

Monday
February 24
1930

ETERNAL GOD, OUR FATHER, Thou hast in every age inspired those who have led men aright. O do Thou breathe upon our hearts, especially upon those who earnestly desire to know the truth and to walk in its light. May we taste the sweetness of Thy love in our souls, and lead us to Thee in a confiding faith. All through our land may manhood be strong, sturdy, and patriotic, and inspire it to grow stronger and mightier in the things that are right. Spread the saving influence of Thy truth everywhere and bring all evil devices to naught. Be pleased, O Lord, to listen to us in Thy great mercy. Amen.

Tuesday February 25 1930

OUR FATHER, Thou art God over all, blessed forever and forever blessing. To-day may we see plainly our pathway while we are showing the way to others. To all those who are environed with care, bearing burdens, and tried with perplexities bring them rest and disarm them of fears. Teach us to bring into subordination every passion and to develop in ourselves sweet affection and holy desire. Grant us help to lay aside doubt and hesitation and follow on to know the Lord, whom to know is life eternal. As the fair and beautiful flower works its way from the soil up to the perfumed blossom, so may we from our level work our way up until our natures blossom in the very breath of our God, who loves us. Amen.

Wednesday February 26 1930

O THOU, who givest liberally unto all men, be unto us very, very real, good, and compassionate. Set us free from besetting sins and evil tendencies. Deeper than we have ever known and clearer than we have ever seen, do Thou reveal Thyself unto the officers and Members of this Congress. Let Thy spiritual truth grow up through our daily tasks—a duty well done brings one very close to our Heavenly Father. While the earth gives us its generous treasures, O light up our souls with the reflection of worlds unknown. We praise Thee that not even a wounded sparrow cries to Thee in vain, for the glories of Thy kingdom are love and rest beneath eternity's cloudless skies. Through Christ Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Thursday February 27 1930

ALMIGHTY AND EVER-LIVING GOD, look down upon us and upon our absent loved ones; give them good health and cheerful hearts. With us, cause ingratitude to be forgotten and mercies to be remembered.

Let hope sing on every day, and may each to-morrow bring its blessing. To every discouraged, disappointed soul give Thy warm, shaping hand, with a feeling of relief and strength. Unfold to us the glories of Thy love; and rising out of the poverty of our thought lift us to the highest strains that mortal minds can reach. By open deed may we walk orderly and keep Thy law. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Friday
February 28
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR FATHER, whose bosom is love, whose mission is recovery, and whose purpose is pardon, we would spend a few rapt moments at the altar of prayer. We mourn the loss of one of the Republic's finest products. Just now we think of him whose feet are entering the paths of death. O God, let heaven's blessing rest upon him and the companion of the years. With music in his heart he sweetened loneliness; and while the flowers of truth and purity are rooted beyond the skies, they blossomed in his gentle life. To him was given an invisible highway that reached to the realm of cheer and tranquillity. The memory of him reminds us of the splendid service he gave our country and the deeds nobly done in the service of others. He softened labor, he refined learning, he exalted our homes, and drew men upward toward wisdom, knowledge, and culture. O Father, while the shadows thicken and the evening comes, let his life be our benediction and lift our souls to God. Amen.

Saturday
March 1
1930

O THOU whose hand lifts the curtain of the morning, to-day, as we face duty and responsibility, may we stand erect. If at evening time we have failed may we take comfort in the realization that in the depths of a good, clean conscience there is no such thing as failure. In every situation may we be men of good report, men who never wrong a fellow and

always prompt to help a friend. O Thou, who speakest to us in the silence of the mountains, we pray that wherever the light breaks and the sunshine falls all may be happy and wise, and put a bow of promise in the bosom of every cloud. In the holy name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Monday March 3 1930

God be merciful unto us and bless us; and cause His face to shine upon us, that Thy way may be known upon the earth, Thy saving grace among all nations. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee. O let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for Thou shalt judge the people righteously and govern the nations upon earth. Let the people praise Thee, O God; let all the people praise Thee. Then shall the earth yield her increase; and God, even our own God, shall bless us. God shall bless us; and all the ends of the earth shall fear Him. Again, our Heavenly Father, our flag is at half-mast. Again the shadows of death have fallen across our pathway. Graciously remember those who are in mourning, and may they hear the voice coming down through the skies saying, "Learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart; and ye shall find rest unto your souls." Amen.

Tuesday March 4 1930

Almighty God, at whose footstool the morning stars sing together and in whom there is perfect love and harmony forevermore, Thy providence hast brought us to another day. How much more intelligently and bravely we can serve our fellow men with Thy truth to guide us and Thy Spirit to inspire us. O bestow upon us the mercy of these blessings. Life's limitations would be bitter, indeed, had we not the assurance that this is God's earth, and it bears testimony of His presence and His goodness. Blessed Father, as we live, make us eager to love and follow Thee. Amen.

Wednesday
March 5
1930

FILL OUR SOULS WITH THY SPIRIT, our blessed Father, that hope, wonderful hope, may live in our breasts. It is the rainbow arch and the doorway of the future up to God. Do Thou pass by our imperfections and forgive our misconceptions, and hold us with our expectant faces against Thy light. O let us look higher than we can climb and bless us with the rapture of absolute confidence in Thy love, and with tearless peace may our minds be true to high purpose and never be hindered by prejudice, bigotry, or inordinate affection. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Thursday
March 6
1930

O FATHER OF MERCIES, again we are in a sudden pause; but Thou dost hear and there is no grief but what Thou wilt share. One of us knows now the end of time and has tasted the deathless life. We lament that his voice is silent. Like a tired child, he was folded in Thy arms and rests in the depths of Thy love. While there are waters of darkness, there is an ocean of light that kisses the shore line of every soul. O breathe tenderly upon the stricken one and fill her soul with the peaceful echoes of Thyself. We thank Thee for that inheritance divine. O let not any ebbing tide leave us in the smothering sands of neglect. Blessed Heavenly Father, listen and keep us under Thy perfect dominion until the very energies of Thy mercy are exhausted and all sorrow and sighing die away before the great white throne. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Friday
March 7
1930

AS WE ARE MADE IN THY IMAGE, ALMIGHTY GOD, O may we not look down, but up. In hope we live and by hope we are saved. The things that are seen are not enough for the soul touched with the divine nature. Do Thou bring the presence of Thy

Son, our Savior, and His glorified cross to the spiritual apprehension of every Member and officer of this Congress. In Him may we realize that there is a place for every experience and a kingdom that flames beyond the bounds of sense. Be pleased to guide our President and bless his hearthstone. Be with the entire body of our citizenship. Increase its faith in orderly government, faith in truth, faith in honor, and faith in its chosen servants. Continue to inspire us with high aims and with the thought of a better and a purer manhood. Vouchsafe to sanctify all human affections by all the nobility of the immortal soul. Amen.

Monday March 10 1930

Almighty God, hear us, as our hearts are heavy, because his hour has come. One of our best beloved and most eminent citizens has crossed his Jordan, and we turn to Thee. We see goodness and mercy in his face, and it was a face that never wore a veil. A smile was always in his eye, and it was never shaded but with sympathy and pity. In him was the union of the art of living and the fine grace of life, and at threescore and ten it was an unbroken idyl of tranquil happiness. Blessed Father, we are grateful for the touch of his soul, so memorable and forever beautiful.

The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; He leadeth me beside the still waters; He restoreth my soul; He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake. Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for Thou art with me. Thy rod and Thy staff, they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever. Amen.

Wednesday
March 12
1930

MAGNIFY THYSELF IN US, BLESSED LORD. Help us to serious thought, to high spiritual thought, that we may ponder the depths and look into the heights, and thus the freshness and the joy and the hope of life shall be renewed. May we accept life with its challenge, assume its obligations, and fill its hours with faithful service. O let all our days be full of interest, enterprise, and wholesome endeavor, making them fruitful in the busy world and in our own country. Ever keep in our thought the truth that the fear of the Lord is the secret of national unity, contentment, and progress. Have us remember that happy is that people whose God is the Lord. Through Christ. Amen.

Thursday
March 13
1930

O GOD OUR FATHER, give all of us some small, sweet way to inspire some life and send it on its way rejoicing. Make the ordinary things of each day subservient, and keep us heroic and eager by the romance of spirituality which may enter our commonest tasks. Oh, if life is of high value to us, it must come out of the living present and must throb with the blood of our daily lives. Father of mercy, forgive our sins and blot them out, not only in Thy book of remembrance but out of our minds and hearts. Clothe us with a deep sense of our responsibility, and may we faithfully and wisely fulfill the mission Thou hast given us. In the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday
March 14
1930

TEACH US, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, that we can have nothing everlastingly good unless Thou dost grant it. Fill our minds, our hearts, and our hands with thoughts and deeds of loving service. Teach us the beauty and glory of the Christian graces, and when the dark days come teach us to wait and listen for Thy voice. Urge us to live in the common cause

and help our fellow men while in the world we stay. At Thy footstool we bow and confess our failures. O may we hear Thee say: "Thou didst thy best; that is success." In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Monday March 17 1930

We need Thee, our merciful Father, because we need forgiveness. We thank Thee that Thy heart glows and pulses with the revelation of divine love. How marvelous are its disclosures in the mission of Thy Son, our Savior. Come and adorn the inner temples of our natures and clothe them with sweetness and light. Make us right with God and give us a humble, gentle love for our fellows. O be urgent with us. Lead us to scorn the wrong and love the true. Impress us that he fails in public and in private life who dispenses with high, healthy morals. Along our journey may we love work for work's sake and love our own work for its own sake, and always help us to keep from those things that engulf goodness and keep us at those sources that make character. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday March 18 1930

Thou hast not hidden Thy face from us, O Lord. Again this day is our day. What shall our part be? May our contribution to it be direct, wise, and unselfish, for we know by experience that any other course leads toward weakness and failure. With willing minds and generous hearts send us forth to do our duty. Merciful God, increase the power of our faith, that we may maintain a supreme allegiance to Thee as our guide. Do Thou enable us to exemplify that faith in all our daily opportunities. Whatever sacrifices it may involve or losses it may incur, O bless us with personal satisfaction and with that peace which let the world go by. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Wednesday March 19 1930

O LORD OUR GOD, justice and judgment are the habitations of Thy throne; mercy and truth shall go before Thy face. In Thy name may we rejoice, for Thou art our defense and the Holy One of Israel is our King. Be pleased to remember all in authority; may their trusts be administered in the fear of God and with true hearts. We not only pray for our own country but for the lands of the whole earth. So extend our vision that we shall take into our sympathy the welfare of every nation. Bestow upon them the blessings of peace, education, and true religion to inspire them and lead them to discharge their duties toward God and toward their fellow men. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday March 20 1930

O THOU WHO DWELLEST IN ETERNAL LIGHT, give us power of will to forsake the dark things of mind, the masters of evil appetite, and the spirit of hate. Create in us that type of manhood that is religious, spiritualized, strong, and well balanced. O endow us with personal force that shall give dignity to our station, steadiness and safety to the Republic. Clothe us with that inner strength that shall direct us to do our best, and breed in us that self-control and diligence and those other virtues which the idle and the negligent never cultivate. When the path of duty is a long road, the hill steep, and the valley forbidding, O remember us in the name of everlasting love. Amen.

Friday March 21 1930

OUR FATHER, behold us with Thine eyes, whose power is love, and cause our innermost selves to have dominion over our outermost selves. We are so unworthy; we are so poor in the things in which Thou desirest us to be rich that we deserve Thy reproach. Take our whole natures and inspire them to follow Thee in all earnestness and devotion. If any are burdened with discouragement, sustain

them. We thank Thee that the infinite heart, which is sovereign over all things in heaven above and in the earth beneath, loves us, even unto our weakness and affliction, and will help us carry our burdens unto the end. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

With the thought of Thee, our Heavenly Father, our natures feel the sense of infinity; it deepens and amplifies them in moral and spiritual ways. Bring us to the full consciousness that life is infinitely more than existence. We live in thoughts, in emotions, and in deeds. O give us the purer outlook and the broader view; then we shall be in possession of a more glorious and enlarging hope. Bless us with the abiding secret of a good life. May we assimilate the divine, drink in its truth, and join Thee in the good work of mercy and help. With Thee, O Lord, there is fullness of wisdom, and our highest good is bound up in obedience to it in our daily lives. Blessed Father of mercy, hear our prayer and lighten our eyes. Amen.

Monday March 24 1930

Our blessed Heavenly Father, while our conduct is often unwise and our lives seem to be commonplace, yet in moments of encouragement we think of ourselves as children of the Most High, who dost bestow upon us the blessing of each day. In Thy sight no life is common or worthless; so bless us with the inspiration of hope and with a sense of dignity, that we may be real and abiding contributions to the moral and patriotic forces of our land. We praise Thee these days for Him whose divine passion finds its consummation in love, sorrow, and sacrifice. With fidelity to Thee and loyalty to our country, help us to do to-day's work, and thus we shall have a fine conception of a life which is loving, brave, and tender. Amen.

Tuesday March 25 1930

Wednesday
March 26
1930

IN THE PARTING of the curtains of the night, Heavenly Father, and in the dawning of this day, Thou hast revealed Thyself anew. We seek Thy guidance. O give us this blessing. We do not pray for ease and rest but for powers equal to our tasks. Let not our failure dishearten us or any cause of delay chill us. We ask for Thy presence and for unutterable thoughts to rise within us. For life and love and for light we thank Thee, gracious Lord, and for all the great world with its infinitely many sources of truth and hope. Thou wilt never leave us, but wilt go with us all the way. May we scatter our flowers as we go, for we shall never pass this way again. In the holy name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Thursday
March 27
1930

COUNTLESS ARE THY WITNESSES, eternal God, our Father; humbled amid Thy glories, may we seek direction in Thy wisdom and in the simplicity of Thy marvelous teaching. At times we desire to do that which is beyond our strength; be gracious to accept the wish when we fail to do the deed. We are Thine; we are part of Thee and Thou art part of our best selves. O teach us to reveal what they dictate of purity, courage, and nobility. Lift the light of Thy truth upon all of us; may it remain in our memories and live in our daily conduct. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Monday
March 31
1930

OUR FATHER, let us not wait until some fair tomorrow bring us the gifts of our hearts, but let us lay hold of happiness and contentment to-day and have them for all whom we meet. Breathe upon our entire citizenship an earnest purpose to do good to all peoples. Grant that our country may live in such blessings of Christian liberty that they may be led the same way. Take away all false pride and vainglory, and make us a nation that ever extends help and comfort to the unfor-

tunate. Be with us and let us know the secret by which we may have from the Divine, strength, patience, and forbearance, and know uncomplaining peace in the midst of the cares and problems of life. O bless us with that refuge of sacred thoughts that is in the bosom of our Heavenly Father. Amen.

Tuesday April 1 1930

We thank Thee, O God, for Thy unfailing goodness around us, above us, by day and by night. How we wonder, yet we praise Thee for Thy unvarying mercy. We bow before Thee with the feeling of reproach because we are so often forgetful of the abundance of Thy love. Overrule whatever has been imperfect and sinful in us. Send us forth as heralds of wisdom and knowledge whose duty is to maintain the high standards of representative government. Before all men may we walk in the fear of God, honoring all Thy precepts. Bless us with urgency and zeal, with divine longings and aspirations that move the soul. Keep us in harmony with Thee, so that in our hearts there may be no bitterness, no hate, no envy, no jealousy, and nothing that hurts, but everything that breathes a benevolent and wise disposition. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday April 2 1930

Merciful Father in heaven, do Thou bring Thy truth to the understanding and to the consciences of this chosen assembly of public servants. While it is weakened and made imperfect by our interpretation, do Thou inspire it and give it direction in all our deliberations. O Thou from whose example we learn to love and to sacrifice, may Thy high spiritual qualities be expressed in our lives, and teach us to promote peace and good will among our fellow men. Bring us at last through joy and through sorrow to Thine own blessed immortality. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday
April 3
1930

GRACIOUS LORD AND OUR GOD, O that the blessing of Thy love and mercy might fill us with hope and peace, that in the midst of labor and imperfection we might discern the thought of our beneficent Heavenly Father. O Lord God, stir such thoughts in us. More and more reveal unto each one of us the inner life of the soul and cause it to send forth resounding joy and thanksgiving. We need Thee; vouchsafe to-day Thy presence to everyone. May we hold fast to purity, temperance, truth, and duty. We thank Thee for the surpassing wonder of Thy compassion and for Thy care and patience from day to day. Amen.

Friday
April 4
1930

OUR FATHER, wilt Thou accept our endeavors to seek and follow Thee? As we take our unequal steps, wilt Thou give us the sense of security? O Spirit of God, search and purify our hearts and bring out that which is noble in our souls to subdue that which is not noble. May we move among our fellow men with such cheerfulness, hopefulness, and courage that they may know that we have the secret of a helpful, wholesome life. Grant us forgiveness for our indifference, pride, and selfishness. Remember our dear children, wherever they may be. Keep them ever as the deepest love of our hearts would have them kept. May all men honor one another and unite the hearts and the minds of our citizens everywhere. In the name of the Master. Amen.

Monday
April 7
1930

BLESSED FATHER OF US ALL, in Thy sacred presence we wait at the place of prayer. If in our breasts there is discord or jarring strain, do Thou subdue it. Let Thy Holy Spirit bring peace to our souls and bring them in harmony with Thy purpose. Lead us in the upward way to the expanding view of our country's greatest needs, and may

we take them up manfully and discharge our duties courageously and wisely. O God, we know life's brevity; we have experienced its sorrows and we have tested its burdens; but, O Lord God, may we throw out a challenge and build our lives on the magnificence of big things, upon the heart's highest hopes and upon our soul's surest instincts, and by faith in the world's Savior hold on until the morning breaketh. Amen.

Tuesday April 8 1930

HOLY! HOLY! HOLY! IS THY NAME, OUR FATHER. Again we come the plain, familiar way, and we thank Thee that there is not a step between Thee and us. We praise Thee for the way—the way of repentance, the way of hope, and the way of the soul. Give us truth-loving minds, and make it easier for us to be gentle, just, and loving, and may we know that we are the sons of God and heirs of the heavenly inheritance. Bless our whole country and redeem it from the thrall of materialism, and let Thy kingdom come and Thy will be done everywhere. Direct and bless all instrumentalities that are being used for the education of the ignorant, for the reformation of morals, and for the purification of law. Amen.

Wednesday April 9 1930

WE KNOW HOW IMPERFECT WE ARE, O LORD, SO we come to Thee as little children. We see Thy manifestations as through a glass darkly. We pray that Thou wilt be near us and strengthen us in understanding, in affection, and in patience. Diffuse Thy strength through our weakness, Thy courage through our despondency, and Thy hope through our fear. O God of mercy and compassion, open the fountain of sympathy upon the poor, upon those who are in distress because of their own sin, and upon those who are needy and helpless. Be

Thou a holy Providence, manifesting Thyself in rich abundance toward all who put their trust in Thee. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday April 10 1930

INFINITE FATHER, we thank Thee that when we are in the greatest need Thou art nearest. We praise Thee for all the innumerable mercies which have attended us. Bless our parents who have borne us, our children who dwell in our hearts' desires, and all our households. May all of us live more divinely; lift us high above just physical appetite, empty moralities, and mere contentment, and bless us with lives ever fresh, ever new, extending their horizons of love and understanding. O may we not be unworthy of our calling, but in all fidelity, standing for justice when it is cast down, and always pleading for the liberty and the advancement of mankind. In the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday April 11 1930

INFINITELY HOLY FATHER, we ask Thee to maintain Thy covenant with us, that by Thy gentleness and sweet attractions we may be drawn more and more to Thee. Thou art not only a God of wisdom and a God of might, for we discern Thee in the wonders of our deepest loves, in the beauty and glory of Thy all-abounding mercy and goodness. Over against every yearning, over against every temptation, over against every fear, over against every affliction is Thy beloved Son, meeting every want and supplying every need. May the memory of Him who took little children in His arms and put His holy hands upon their heads and blessed them, direct and encourage us until the latest year of our earthly lives. Do Thou inspire our faith in the glorified cross of the Savior of the world. Amen.

Monday April 14 1930

O Lord our God, we marvel at Thy patience and the resources of Thy love. In the ages to come how adorable wilt Thou be to our astonished and enraptured vision. O grant us deeper thoughts and experiences of Thine infinite nature. May we more truly understand those qualities of soul out of which have sprung all the sweet affections of men and of angels. We pray that there may be more true humanity, unselfish sympathy, and less suspicion and selfishness throughout the world. Graciously remember our President, our Speaker, and this Congress. Bless all our people with that most glorious release—liberty of conscience, liberty of faith, and unobstructed happiness. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Tuesday April 15 1930

Our Heavenly Father, give us this day our daily bread, such as shall feed our minds, enrich our hearts, and forgive us when we fail to appreciate the daily blessings of life. Be unto us such a reality that we shall be able to repress the harsh words and confess our faults. O Thou whose ways are always right because wisdom and love are always over them, allow nothing that is human to be alien to our hearts. When we think of the weak, the ignorant, and the poor, remind us, our Father, that the law of service is one of the supreme laws of men. Through doubt, temptation, and privation may our faith cleave steadfastly to the Galilean Teacher. Let Him be the consummation of our love and hope. Amen.

Wednesday April 16 1930

We praise Thee, O Lord, for Thou wert the God of our fathers. Thou didst teach them many things, and their trust in Thee was not in vain. May we seek the same truths and be led by the same light. Whatever we may need in the midst of our doubts and our longings, do Thou provide. O Thou who

art infinite in nature and the One altogether lovely, be with us to-day, that we may be zealous in all good works and our aspirations be as a flaming fire. We are so thankful that Thou art at the center of all power, aye, at the very heart of the universe, yet Thou art eternal midday and eternal joy. We rejoice in Thee, our Father, for Him who held eternity's secret in His untroubled breast and carried it calmly into the hush of the night of death. Amen.

Thursday April 17 1930

THE EARTH IS THE LORD'S and the fullness thereof, the world and they that dwell therein. For he hath founded it upon the seas and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart, who hath not lifted his soul unto vanity or sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing of the Lord and righteousness from the God of His salvation. This is the generation that seek Him, that seek Thy face, O Jacob. Lift up your heads, O ye gates, and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord strong and mighty, the Lord mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors, and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory. Amen.

Friday April 18 1930

ETERNAL AND EVERLASTING GOD and Mary's Holy Child—worthy is the Lamb that was slain. O come let us bow down. In Thy marred and weary face are reflected the woes and sorrows of a sinful world. O Christ, Thou hast enveloped the whole world in Thy winding sheet, which expands to the remotest shades of humanity; Thou hast hung a lamp of un-

dying hope in the darkest midnight of the world. Walking in the way of Thy cross, may we have forgiveness of our sins and have our lives transformed and exalted by Thy eternal purpose. Thus all earthly duties will take on new meaning. In this dark and forbidding hour we humble ourselves at Thy pierced feet and praise Thee for the blossom of that love which roots itself in the breast of Almighty God and puts new life into the skeleton form of a dead world. Again the summons has come to this Chamber. Again a faithful and painstaking servant of Thine and our country has left us. O give great comfort to the bereft fireside.

There is a green hill far away,
  Without a city wall,
Where the dear Lord was crucified,
  Who died to save us all.

We may not know, we can not tell,
  What pains He had to bear;
But we believe it was for us
  He hung and suffered there.

Monday April 21 1930

Our Father, we pray that we may be altogether Thine. Take our human natures and banish the shallow happiness; open our eyes to the hills above the clouds and touch the chords that have never given their sweetest music. The charm of courage is its note of heroism. As true and brave men, help us to put the accent there. In the stress, fret, and weariness of things give us a glimpse of the eternal purpose. Thus the mists of feelings shall be dispelled and we shall be led into that strength and sweet attachment without which we can not do our best work. O there is genius in this kind of manhood and manhood in this kind of genius. We thank Thee, blessed Father, for the providence of this new day. Give us guileless hearts and souls that can serve, because there is love, home, and country in them. Amen.

Tuesday
April 22
1930

O THOU who dost lift us out of our mistakes and dost bear us beyond the blots and stains of wrongdoing, hear our prayer. O hear us. Again we are safely folded in the divine arms from whose embrace no peril can permanently separate us; we thank Thee. We are so grateful that we live in a world that is full of God. Thy wisdom, glory, and splendor are nearer than we think. May we feel their wonder. The lights and the shades, the murmurs and the silences, these all are voices that come and go at Thy call. O what a surplus of God everywhere. With such a God, who is our Father forevermore, let us be content to fulfill the divine ends of our beings in Thy good time and way. Again we ask Thee to hear us. Amen.

Wednesday
April 23
1930

THOU ART still gracious and merciful, blessed Lord God; we thank Thee. Bestow upon us the blessing of Thy Holy Spirit to temper our duties with patience, to enlarge our minds with long, long thoughts, to mellow our hearts with broad sympathies, and to interpret our lives by the standards of nobleness. O may we not be hardened by business, blunted by disappointments, or harmed by the conflicts of trade. Our Father, lure us to the high places of action, to sweet fellowships and splendid service. May we once more believe in the dreams of youth, feel once more the allurements of the heart, and trust once more the ideals of the hearthstone. Bless our country with all its manifold interests, and may all nations be brought into a more intimate relationship. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thursday
April 24
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, not unto us, not unto us, but unto Thy name give glory and honor, for Thy mercy and for Thy truth's sake. O Lord, awaken us to a full realization of the blessedness of our inherit-

ance, walking humbly with God and patiently among men, making known Thy power, even the power of the still, small voice. Uphold and animate Thy servants and give them strength and wisdom for this day. Deliver us from the unrest of life and from its recurring anxiety. Direct us to that which is higher than happiness, and then it will steal into our breasts and join us on the way. O let us forget it in the passion of higher things and then it comes. Amen.

Friday April 25 1930

Blessed Heavenly Father, we thank Thee that Thou hast set this day in so much brightness. Thou hast hung Thy banners upon the trees and filled the air and landscape with sunshine and beauty. May they teach us the majesty of Thy laws and the goodness of Thy providence. O bless our whole country. With darkness, let ignorance go, with superstition, cruelty, and every evil thing. Behold those who seem to be toiling in vain; those who are borne down with burdens heavier than they can bear. O Thou who art full of grace and full of endless mercies, deliver us from fear, from disobedience and iniquity. Cleanse our minds from prejudice and take away that which separates us from Thee, and to Thy name shall be eternal praises. Amen.

Monday April 28 1930

Our blessed, blessed Father in heaven, we approach thee with grateful and thankful hearts. Do Thou enable us to understand that the best life is not all a battle or a race. It is a growth and a walk with God. With this truth in our thoughts may we turn cheerfully to our appointed tasks. Dismiss from us the jarring or discordant note and allow nothing to mar the melody of life's sweet song. Let us have done with the drudgery of fear and friction that often make duty an unendurable burden.

Help us to ascend into the spiritual heights for inspiration and outlook, feel the immensities of God's great world house, wander along its shore lines, drink in the breath of heaven as it blows over them, and thus get hope and faith and courage for the labors and conflicts of life. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

I will never leave Thee nor forsake Thee; I will go with Thee all the way.

Tuesday April 29 1930

WHEN out in the wilderness alone, when bereft of friends and of fortune, when compassed with grief and with gloom, merciful Father, no words could be as comforting. Thy providential care towers above the forbidding horizons of all human need. We thank Thee for Thy promises. Inspire us with their loftiest heights of spiritual exaltation, with the widest sweep of their conquering might, and with the largest breadth of their catholicity. Bless our country with all its leaders. Preserve them from perplexing doubt and perilous drift. Let righteous assertion, patriotic zeal, and good will ring cheerily from border to border and from coast to coast. In the name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Wednesday April 30 1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Creator and Savior of the world, take every vision that beckons us, every hope that fires us, and every truth that illuminates and saves us, and hold their possibilities in Thy grasp. O God, we have souls to save, characters to build, passions to master, and virtues to achieve. Do Thou help us to that which all the world needs until we find our crowns in Thee. By industry, by discipline and intelligent, conscientious devotion to high purpose, may we reach those roomy thoughts tested and tried by the facts of knowledge and experience. Amen.

Thursday May 1 1930

O Thou who hast made the day, the sunlight, and all that is blossoming and fair upon the earth, hearken unto us, for Thou art our Father. Dwell in our thoughts and give proof that Thou art against temptation, trial, and every besetment of this mortal life. Bless and direct us through the hours before us, and let none of us fail. O God of the nations, bring into the light all that dwell in darkness. Spread abroad everywhere the spirit of humanity, gentleness, and patience, and may our own country always lead the way. As servants of the public weal, give us restraint in the unguarded moment. Keep us true, quiet, and undaunted in our mission. Be with all—lift the burden, still the sigh, and awake the song. Amen.

Friday May 2 1930

O God, each day and in many circumstances we need that covert against which the storms beat in vain. May we realize, in some little way, that Thou dost rise above thrones, principalities, and powers. Do Thou more and more invigorate the purposes of our souls. Add sincerity to earnestness and earnestness to endeavor. O give us strength in all that is good, aversion to whatever is evil, and power to resist all the approaches of sin. O remember every heart, and be unto all like music floating softly among the hills, like a sweet fragrance wafted among the highlands, and like a soft shaft of light breaking through the clouds above us. When the day is over and we are alone with our thoughts, as we look back with a steady gaze, may we feel that it was worth while. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Monday May 5 1930

Blessed Father of us all, we thank Thee for the open door of this new week. How wonderful the knowledge that Thou hast never left nor forsaken

Thy children! In light and in darkness, in pleasure and in pain Thou art there. May we approach our duties with that understanding that is wrought in wisdom and knowledge. If in our lives there is hate or any lack of consideration for others, O may they be dismissed as the things of the night. Bring us all to the high level of our truest and best manhood. In this Chamber, whose walls resound so much with the history of the Republic, may we be in deed and in truth Thy servants ministering in sacred things. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday May 6 1930

EVER-BLESSED GOD, we can not understand Thee; by searching we can never compass Thy being. Thou art infinite in truth, infinite in purity, and infinite in goodness. Touch, O touch the best springs of our beings and let us draw near to Thee. Shield us from the poor imperfections of life and inspire us with a larger manhood, nobler generosity purer affection, and allow us to pass into the higher realm of spiritual power and beauty. O Thou before whom all suns, moons, stars, constellations, galaxies, immensities, and æons wheel and blaze in triumph, yet Thou dost stoop to kiss the earth with Thy glory and claim man as Thy child. How we thank Thee, Almighty God, for this marvelous and unspeakable condescension. Amen.

Wednesday May 7 1930

O LORD OUR GOD, with the full consciousness of our demerits we come to Thee to obtain mercy and pardon. Forgive our sins and let disappointment and pain blossom into gladness. Teach us how to fulfill the vows which we have made, both in public and in private, and enable us to stand in the strength of God and in the fear of man. Bless the labors of this day and breathe a sweet satisfaction

into our souls. Bring to the whole earth Thy glory, so that all men may learn peace founded upon national integrity and justice. Stir in our breasts aspirations for things noble and divine. O let flowers, reeds, and grasses, which are breaking through the earth, remind us of that eternal spring when we awake from dreams of God. Amen.

Thursday May 8 1930

Deliver us, blessed Lord, from the bondage of fear and from undue devotion to self. In all the ways of life—through anxiety, through perplexity, through loss, and through gain—may we be led by Him who is the way, the truth, the life. Give us faith of the future and hope that shall triumph over all. The mountains are Thine, the sky, the sun, the moon, and the stars; but it is Thine heart that hath made us. May we realize in our own earthly spheres the divinity of that love and use its power among men. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday May 9 1930

Our Father, Thou hast dealt gently with us. With grateful affection may we walk with Thee today. As we have experienced the common bounty of Thy providence, may we acknowledge Thee as our sovereign Lord. Grant that we may have a more perfect sense of being Thy children; may we love Thee because Thou didst first love us. It was first Thy outreaching arms that kept us at Thy feet. Do Thou remember all parts of our land. Abide with our President, our Speaker, and all Members and officers of this House. O may our laws be just and their execution impartial. As with Thee there is no night, let the darkness of this world seem to Thy children as the shadow of Thy wings. Amen.

Monday
May 12
1930

BLESSED LORD, we are not afraid to come to Thee because we are inferior. Thy love and mercy, we trust, have taken away the sense of fear. We thank Thee for such tides of graciousness. As the tiniest flower turns toward the sun, so in Thy presence we thank Thee for what Thou art, and may we forget what we are. Bless all classes of our citizens. May education prevail that our whole land receive its blessings. Remember especially the poor, the ignorant, the needy, and those who are subject to violent wrongs inflicted by their own passions. Teach us all that the big things in life are contentment, a fine appreciation, a serene mind, and a large vision. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
May 14
1930

IN THE NAME OF HIM who ministered to the needy and hungry may we champion the cause of the poor, and even that of the little children. Quicken our moral vision, our intellectual perception, and our emotional discernment. Moving as we are amid the changing circumstances of men, may our influence be irresistible and unbroken by Thy guidance. Open our souls to the infinite. In our impoverishment lead us toward that shining peak of a towering aspiration where we can count all things to be loss for the excellency of the goodness of God. Amen.

Thursday
May 15
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy holy name. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEMORIAL EXERCISES

Lord, Thou hast been our dwelling place in all generations. Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever Thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting Thou art God. For a thousand years in Thy sight are but as yesterday when it is past, and as a watch in the night. Thou carriest them away as with a flood; they are as a sleep: in the morning they are like grass which groweth up, in the morning it flourisheth and groweth up; in the evening it is cut down, and withereth. So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts unto wisdom. O satisfy us early with Thy mercy; that we may rejoice and be glad all our days. Let Thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord our God be upon us; and establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands establish Thou it.

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal. And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing. And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love, it profiteth me nothing. Love suffereth long, and is kind; love envieth not; love vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up. Doth not behave itself unseemly, seeketh not her own, is not easily provoked, thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth; beareth all things, believeth all things, hopeth all things, endureth all things. Love never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then I shall know even as also I am known. And now abideth faith, hope, and love, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Serene I fold my hands and wait,
  Nor care for wind, nor tide, nor sea;
I rave no more 'gainst time and fate,
  For lo! my own shall come to me.

I stay my haste, I make delays;
  For what avails this eager pace?
I stand amid the eternal ways,
  For what is mine shall know my face.

Asleep, awake, by night or day
  The friends I seek are seeking me;
No wind can drive my bark astray,
  Nor change the tide of destiny.

What matter if I stand alone?
  I wait with joy the coming years;
My heart shall reap where it has sown
  And garner up its fruit of tears.

The stars come nightly to the sky,
  The tidal wave unto the sea;
Not time, nor space, nor deep, nor high,
  Can keep my own away from me.

Yet Love will dream and Faith will trust
(Since He who knows our needs is just)
That somehow, somewhere, meet we must.
Alas for him who never sees
The stars shine through his cypress trees!
Who, hopeless, lays his dead away,
Nor looks to see the breaking day
Across the mournful marbles play!
Who hath not learned in hours of faith,
  The truth to flesh and sense unknown,
That Life is ever lord of Death,
  And Love can never lose its own!

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done in earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ALMIGHTY GOD, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, lift upon us at this hour the light of Thy holy countenance. Help us to lift our eyes unto the hills from whence

cometh our strength. Our help cometh from the Lord. More and more increase our faith and our hope in the immortality of the human soul. Let a blessing of rest and peace come to all of these ones upon whom the great sorrow of death has come. God be very gracious and merciful unto them and keep them, we beseech Thee, while many years of happiness and contentment pass by. During all the future enable them to be conscious that underneath them are the everlasting arms that never, never fail. Abide with all of us in the measure of a great peace, and at the last—for, O Lord God, at the last will come—as one door closes may another door open. As our earthly eyes close upon the receding skies of time may the eternal skies appear and bear us up the stairway through the darkness to the Father's house, to the Father's breast, to the Father's heart, to the Father's love, and to the Father's home, and we shall go out no more forever. Amen.

NOW UNTO HIM who is able to keep you from falling and present you faultless before the presence of His glory with great joy, unto the only wise God our Savior be glory and majesty, dominion and power, both now and ever. Amen.

Friday May 16 1930

HOW MANIFEST ARE THY MERCIES, O GOD, and nothing shall be able to separate us from Thy providence. To us Thou art a perennial spring by the traveler's way, a guiding star in the night of uncertainty and darkness, and a refuge unmoved and unmovable forever. We have learned that it is not in vain to call upon Thee in the emergencies of human experience. May this divine word possess our hearts, "Thy will be done." Whatever may come of care and burden and trial, sanctify them in strength, patience, humility, trust, and victory. O let there come honor and peace to everyone that worketh good. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Monday
May 19
1930

OUR MERCIFUL FATHER, Thou art the light of the world! Come with us, for we need Thee. Give power and sensibility to that which is dull and dark in us. Ever lead us toward the completeness of the more abundant life. May our faith discern the invisible, and bless us with the sense of recovery from all failures. Give peace when trouble scowls and rest in the midst of tumult. Rebuke us if our range of charity, tolerance, and unselfishness is narrowed. At the close of the day send us forth to our homes to bless and cheer them with joy and gladness, and to all may life be worth living and its ends worth striving for. Amen.

Tuesday
May 20
1930

PRAISE YE THE LORD, for He is good and His mercy endureth forever. As watchmen wait for the morning, so may we wait for Thee. Bring our souls into the mood of hoping and trusting in Thee, our Father. Unite joy and duty, privilege and responsibility, for we can not offer a more convincing testimony before the Republic. O that patriotism would walk at the side of intelligence, that it may not be blind. Bless our whole country and lead it to seek not only its own interests and aggrandizements but the universal good and peace of mankind. May all our free institutions be pleasing in Thy sight and be a living force among all nations. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
May 21
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, whatever the falsities or errors that may cloud and confuse our vision, never permit us to lose faith in our immortal hopes and in the eternal verities. We thank Thee for the truths which transcend the trivial and the mortal and assume an endless life and a glorious destiny. Bless and direct the hidden sympathies and emotions of our souls, which silently, though masterfully, sway the course of our lives. Continue to enlarge the

rims of our mental and spiritual horizons that we may not dwindle and wither. We pray that immortal love may be the fixed axis of our beings and obedience to law the rule of our conduct until we enter upon the vast journey of undisturbed blessedness. Amen.

Almighty God, our Father, our weakness is more conspicuous than our strength. Man with his boasted power weighs the mountains and the hills in balances, yet he sorely needs a refuge. Many ills confront his mortal condition. Heavenly Father, we would open our hearts and turn to Thee that we may become the temples of Thy Spirit and the vessels of Thy grace. Do Thou impress us that it is always wiser to be good than bad, and safer to be meek than fierce. Help us to a deep realization that there is no flower on mount or plain so lovely as a sweet child, no early sunlight so splendid as a young life, no jewel so beautiful as a transparent character, and no harvest so fair as the product of a fine life. Hearken unto our prayer, we beseech Thee, O Lord. Amen.

Thursday May 22 1930

Most gracious Lord God, bless us with quiet minds and subdue restless wills that hurry to and fro. Enable us to trust Thee where reason can not understand. Take the north wind out of our skies, and may we cherish the fragrance and the beauty that drips for all. Look after the soil of our hearts; give it depth of pure love and honest purpose. We thank Thee that no price is set on the lavish springtime. May it enrich our imaginations, our affections, and our characters. He who loves the trees, the flowers, and the singing birds loves the Infinite Soul that radiates in stars and stirs in clods, that gilds the clouds and greens the earth of May. Glory be to Thee, O Lord Most High. Amen.

Friday May 23 1930

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Saturday
May 24
1930

MERCIFUL GOD, OUR FATHER, we thank Thee that we are brought together again upon this day; Thy mercies are so constant and abundant. We are grateful that Thou art not an avenging God. Thou art infinitely above man, for all Thy judgments are administered in compassion and goodness. Though an infinite Creator, yet Thou dost love us all. Even the universe claims the devotion of our souls. So long as there is a flower to lift its face toward the sun; so long as there is a bird to sing away the selfishness of man; so long as there is a sunlit breast to feel the pulsations of redeeming love; so long as there is a wandering vagabond, wearing the scarred image of the Father, there will be everlasting love in the heart of the Almighty. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Monday
May 26
1930

ETERNAL GOD, in drawing near to Thee with the understanding mind may we in disposition and inward likeness be worthy children of Thine. Guide our steps and keep our heartstrings in tune. Let us not only look for Thee on the pages of books, pressed on the systematic leaves of history, but far, far better, may we find Thee in the sweet aroma that mellows and softens daily living. Bless us with the spirit that sings the song of unselfishness and chants the anthem of duty. Here is work to be done by lovers of industry, of character, of country, and of fine reputation; but we often love imperfectly. Do Thou direct the springs of action and uncoil the best forces in us which have been coiled by the hands of the Almighty. We pray in the name of our divine Lord. Amen.

Tuesday
May 27
1930

INFINITE LOVE, so pure and boundless, we thank Thee that we are the ungrown children of Thine earthly household, looking upon ourselves as plants in the garden of our Lord. Bless us with the sense of things unseen, eternal, immutable, and more and

more admit us into mysteries of Thy kingdom. O Spirit of Christ, dwell in our homes, the divine unit of society, where the soul develops its powers and learns to use its vision. O dwell in every heart, the ultimate shrine and temple of God. Make manifest in motherly arms Thy watchful care for every child and every hearthstone. As guardians of truth, honor, and purity, lead us on to the highest accomplishments of our spiritual natures. Amen.

Wednesday May 28 1930

O Thou who art everlasting love, refining and redeeming the checkered nature of man, hear our prayer and bless us with Thy spirit; move out and up thought's highway, and may we reach that wonderful calm that is beyond understanding. Keep us as honest as daylight, as sincere as nature, and as open as the love of God. Put us in league with excellence and with an idealism that knows no compromise and is as divinely true and constant as the breath of heaven. How imperfect we are, yet in Thy sight how beautiful and significant are the weakest fingerings on the keyboard of life. How marvelous Thy condescension, for he who shares his crumbs with a Lazarus or places the goblet of water to the lips of a Dives is star-rayed according to Thy holy will and purpose. In the name of the Galilean Teacher. Amen.

Tuesday June 3 1930

O Thou merciful and Almighty God, in whom we have our being, we praise Thee that we live under the sovereignty of our personal Heavenly Father. Thou art the spiritual fountain by which the world will be cleansed; from Thee will come the spiritual flames by which human hearts shall be purified and redemption wrought. Across the lands will be heard the words of the Carpenter-Teacher: "I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly." We thank Thee for Thy message and mission to

the world. Because Thou hast given us this spendid land, because Thou hast dowered us with many gifts, and because Thou hast allowed us to live in this wonderful day, O lead us to work unsparingly for the Christian federation of the world. Amen.

Wednesday June 4 1930

IN OUR THOUGHTS we desire to praise Thee, O Thou in whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning. The wonder of Thy love never grows weary; it is new every morning. Thou dost throw about us those merciful forces which we so much need. But, our Father, our minds, our hearts, and our wills need the consciousness of Thy presence. We would walk with the Great Teacher in undivided inheritance which is to be revealed. Bless the causes of Thy kingdom, all agencies, all movements that seek the welfare of mankind. Unite us this day with Thee by solemn covenant. We breathe Thy holy name; may we never do anything to tarnish it. We rejoice that ours is the hope, the joy, and that inward life which inspire good cheer and gladness. In the Father's name. Amen.

Thursday June 5 1930

ETERNAL GOD, our thoughts ascend to where Thy glory and praise have no end. Thine are the secrets, the treasures, and the will of heaven and earth. Never allow us to be unmindful of the smallest detail of our high calling, for it is our task, to which we have pledged the honor of our being. Bless us with unmurmuring patience and mold our spirits to sober and chastened habits. Redeem us, our Father, from the ashes of exhausted resolutions and burnt-out religious fervor. O lead us on toward the highest levels of purity and dignity of character, which is the best possession of man. Settle our thoughts to-day upon the obligations we owe our country. Amen.

Friday June 6 1930

Almighty God, we thank Thee for the angel of love and for the angel of sympathy. Unto all within whose breasts these have faded low like a candle in its socket comes the Teacher of Nazareth, kindling the waning hopes, bidding them to believe in Thee, in themselves, and in their fellow men. We thank Thee, our Father, for Him who, beholding the multitudes, had compassion, looked up and smiled, pointing to the unseen battlements above. As servants of the Republic may we stand for those things that make for the common good. In a world of din and tumult ever bless us with that sweetest boon, friendship, whose beautiful shadow sweetens and strengthens with the setting sun of life. Amen.

Monday June 9 1930

Our Father in Heaven, we praise Thee for these sacred silences in which we may sound our own hearts and where Thou art assuredly found. May we take all we can from this place and turn it to account in living a life that has definite value. O light of life, a star from the everlasting flame, shine upon our path. Let the thought of Thy mercy be with us to-day, guiding us as the star guides the sailor. Bless us all with the riches of wisdom, peace, and friendship until we commune with Thee in the garden at twilight. Do Thou keep our Republic a pure and undefiled democracy, in which every man, woman, and child shall have the utmost liberty consistent with the liberty of others. In the Father's name. Amen.

Tuesday June 10 1930

O Father of Mercies, for life and all it means to us we render Thee our humble thanks. Unfold unto us such truth that may give us a wise impulse in the right way. May it spring up, multiply, and bring forth fruit a hundredfold in every heart. O what bounty there is in Thy mercy and what rapture in Thy approval! If we have failed, bring us

back to eager ambition for things right and high. Turn back the tides of ignorance and do away with the vices and the crimes that afflict men. Everywhere let intelligence, virtue, and self-control prevail. In disputation may self never break up and give way. Go before us through tumult, through clouds of doubt and creeds of fear, and let the light, calm and clear, break in. Amen.

Wednesday
June 11
1930

O LORD GOD OF HOSTS, we thank Thee for this day with its promise and opportunity. We praise Thee for the bud and bloom, for the caroling birds, for nature wrought in the garment of its own loveliness, and even for the stars, those eloquent ministers of the night. O God, we rejoice because of these evidences of Thy might and glory. We bow our souls in humility and ask the forgiveness of our sins. Teach us the importance of the smallest effort, and may we dread no duty. Bless unto us the memory of experience, every sweet association, and every tie of love. Impart to every care-beclouded life some ray of cheer and touch their souls with comfort every day. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday
June 12
1930

GOD IS OUR REFUGE AND STRENGTH; therefore we would be still and exalt His holy name together. Blessed Father, with patient hearts and willing hands and out of the highest rapture, may we do our plainest work and hardest tasks. Open the gates of difficulty and let us feel that Thy mercy is proof of its divinity. Give us all serene and pleasant thoughts and a devotion to the right that never swerves. O bless us with a simple faith, full of trust and hope and free from all bigotry. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday June 14 1930

Look down upon us, O God, and see if we are making the most of our privilege and position. O let us not forget our estate and thus make dim the outlines of our daily conduct. Give us power to see our way and move. May we see the beauty of earth and love the common things of life—the common sky, the common landscape, the common flower, and, above all, the common heart, which has no wealth or power save common love. O may we breathe the breath of all, for they are ever new and sweet and rare. Help us to appreciate the common man with great qualities all along the highway of life. In the name of the Savior, whom the poor heard gladly. Amen.

Monday June 16 1930

Our Father, we wait a moment to acknowledge Thee as God over all. We desire to thank Thee for looking down from Thy sovereign throne, concerned for our welfare. We would take heed to ourselves and to Thy law. We are grateful to Thee that we are not solitary and alone. In the hour of temptation, in the stern discharge of duty, and when the burdens bend low Thou art our Father, touched with a feeling of our infirmity. Thou art the blessed guaranty of our security here and forever. We praise Thee for the eye that is fixed on earth's multitudes, for the arm that upholds the skies, for the ear that is filled with the angels' songs, and for the abiding love that is enthroned forever and ever. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday June 17 1930

O Spirit of Immortal Life, fill us with the certainty of Thy presence. Bless us all with the sense of Thy graciousness that we may strangely forget disappointment and find ourselves strong in Thee and made cheerful to pursue our work. May we

never look with contempt upon the world nor our country nor our institutions. Always help us to rise to the very best things of life. If we are compelled to walk in affliction, may we rejoice as we do so. If defeat comes into our lives, give us the spirit of triumph. Break down the walls that separate men, and may we serve them with all their imperfections. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
June 18
1930

OUR LOVING HEAVENLY FATHER, we praise Thee for all the sweet and beautiful memories that cluster about Thy providences; these all witness to divine care. Evermore may we look unto Thee with sincere and thankful hearts. We do desire to rest in the sublime trust that Thou who hast made and guided us wilt order all things aright. Hasten the day when nations and peoples shall not live by envy, by jealousy, by rivalry, or any form of selfishness. Everywhere may the power of God be discerned in culture, in understanding, and in mutual fidelities. Bless us with the heart of love that restrains fear and encourages at all times the very best that is in us. In the name of our blessed Savior. Amen.

Thursday
June 19
1930

MOST MERCIFUL FATHER, Thy name is great and greatly to be praised; we therefore wait on our God. For this radiant and beautiful day, with its baptism of the summer sun, we thank Thee. Into the garden of our hearts do Thou enter that we may join the jubilant accord of this earthly scene and thereby enrich our heaven. May we live where the joys are, live in the sunshine of Thy presence, live as the flowers and the birds live, free from anxious care and painful burden, just as our Father meant that we should. As for our faith in Thee and in all that is good, may it never fail us. By all Thy mercies lead us on without murmur and complaint.

Keep before us Thy holy precepts and direct us in the ways of truth and wisdom. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

Friday June 20 1930

The tender memories of Thy mercies, blessed Lord, are sweet and heavenly benedictions. With us make this day a fresh beginning as we come to Thee with songs of praise and thanksgiving. Be to our souls a cup of strength, and enkindle in us a zeal for the helpful ministries of life. He who has experienced truth shining in its sphere fails not, for he makes character his aim and the love of country his cause. Bless us with cheerfulness, for wondrous is its strength and its power of endurance. Grant that our lives may blend in full accord with the music of love and the sunshine of gladness. In the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Saturday June 21 1930

Most gracious Lord, in the quiet of this noonday moment, with its ministries of help and light, may we receive wise incentive for the labors before us. Whatever our tasks may be, may we feel that they are Thine, and with Thy direction may we move forth with trust and dignity. During the days of our lives we would walk with Thee and with our fellow men in a life of loving service. At the eventide to-day may it be our highest joy to find ourselves at the hearths of happy firesides. In the name of Jesus, the lover of men. Amen.

Monday June 23 1930

Our merciful Heavenly Father, we thank Thee that Thou art sufficient to the needs of each day. Do Thou hush the voices of evil desire, motive, and passion, and make the image within us clear and strong to meet the conditions of life. Add divine meaning to each day and guard every soul;

keep our hearts pure and our lips from speaking guile. In the Christian's faith may we rejoice in life, and by fidelity and watchfulness be prepared for every divinely offered opportunity. Help us to go on our way, and by honest work and faithful service find that life is good by doing something to make it good. Again we thank Thee for life that throbs and flushes and flashes in the color and beauty and fragrance of a June day. Amen.

Tuesday
June 24
1930

FATHER OF MERCIES, again Thou hast drawn the curtain of night and shown us the radiance and beauty of Thy handiwork; Thy infinite presence underlies all. We humble ourselves before Thee, yet we approach Thee with filial trust and confidence. Blessed Lord God, be with us, for the words we speak and the things we do may seem to be lost, but are not. Direct us and lead us to do something for others—to love the unloving, to extend the hand to the forbidding, to plan and win the cause that is just, to will that our light may shine, and, above all, to add strength of character and acceptable conduct to our daily living. In the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
June 25
1930

O LORD OUR FATHER, we rejoice that our God is love and that we are His children. Help us to know ourselves as temples of Thine, and that the essential principle in us is God! Therefore the possibilities of good are greater than the possibilities of evil. Clothe us with Thy spirit, and may we realize that there is nothing so kingly as truth and nothing so royal as love. Make use of us, our Father, wherever we are. Impress us that a little more silent sympathy, a little more restraint of temper, and a few more tender words dim the shadows of discouragement and help the soul to meet its challenge. Amen.

Thursday
June 26
1930

Incline our hearts to keep Thy law, O Lord, and work in us the spirit of sincere repentance. Turn our faces upward and ever keep them in the light. Because of our tendencies we ask Thee for faith and courage to meet life's uncertainties and to perform its duties with determination. May Thy will be done in all things. With Thy blessing upon us we pray that this day may be filled with peace and with those deeds which our minds and hearts have cherished. Amen.

Friday
June 27
1930

O God of the Morning and Father of the Night, alas for this moment! We hear the drumbeat of that dullest march which is taking us on. Another Member of this Chamber will answer to the roll call no more. With his wealth of thought and with his richer wealth of love, he has taken his homeward flight. His sublime task is completed. The great and loving God who pours forth His full tides of treasure has made the grave iron on one side but beaten gold on the other. We loved him, Father, for his was the measure of full manhood; his was the real grace of character, for he forgot the things that disturb the harmonies of the Christian life. Soften the sorrow that surges about the hearts of the fireside and point them above to the eternal empire of a loving Father. O let our lives be deluged with goodness until God shall make all things new. Fill our hearts to-day with hope and resignation. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday
June 28
1930

Our blessed Heavenly Father, may this day be lighted for us with the radiant colors of faith and hope, and let doubt and anxiety disappear. Be Thou our continued incitement until we feel the thing we ought to be is throbbing beneath the thing we are. Lead us until our affections and consciences see and realize the splendor of Thy law and we become united with the purpose of Thy holy

will. Bless us with that sense that knows the right, with gentle hearts and with a determined power to labor for the good of our country and to promote the peace and happiness of our fellow men. Amen.

Monday June 30 1930

AUTHOR AND GIVER OF LIFE, who art ever with us, we thank Thee that we can not wander beyond Thy loving care. We praise Thee for this fair world, enriched by Thy infinite power and Thy countless mercies. O may we not mar its glory by our selfishness, but by wisdom and intelligence make it more beautiful. May we dismiss from our thoughts inconveniences and petty annoyances and forget them. Make us grateful for the sunlight, the blue sky, the daily mercies, and the wonderful blessings which we enjoy. For these, O Lord of Life, may we always be sincerely thankful. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday July 1 1930

OUR ETERNAL FATHER, to Thee we come and yield ourselves. May we be dedicated anew to the glad service of our country, whose gifts and blessings are coextensive with the being of man. Bless us with the riches of Thy grace and with the consciousness of clean, manly living. Bid our souls to be at rest. Dismiss even the suggestion of discord, and may we have the sense of proportion. Do Thou receive and then accept us for Thy mercy's sake. Crown us all with those virtues that are as the brightness of the firmament and even as the stars, forever and ever. Hear us, our Father, and lead us in that pathway of purity and truth and justice that has neither bend nor turn. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday July 2 1930

OUR FATHER, we come to Thee in the name of Him whose name is above every name! We praise Him, for He is the sublimest figure in the annals of

all time. O guard us against avarice and consuming ambition, and make us such a treasure to those who love us that when we pass it will be as if a star had fallen out of the sky. Impress us that the things of earth are destined to be pulled down, but the unseen structures of thought and heart will abide. O Thou Savior of the world, stronger than any father, gentler than any parent, truer than any friend, we rejoice in Thy love and mercy and acknowledge our everlasting indebtedness to Thy redeeming power. Amen.

Thursday July 3 1930

We would not find fault with Thee and Thy world, O God. A countless host of Thy mercies announces the traces of gladness everywhere. In our hearts is gratitude abounding. We praise Thee that Thou art our Father and the silver cord that binds us to Thy throne has never been broken. O let us walk with Thee in loving fidelity and lift us to the outlook of a blessed life. Bless us with the resolute step, the smile of cheer, the lifted countenance, and the thoughtful word. The past is before us and an open book; we trust that we have shed some luster upon its pages. May we get out of them a wise and thoughtful future. Be with us as we go our way. Most graciously abide with our Speaker, the Members, the officers, and the pages of this Congress. O may no ill befall their dwellings. So guide us that we may not fail to see our way. O God of the Nations, hold Thou the foundation of the Republic, and may it always rest upon the sublime moralities of the Teacher of men. Bless our loves with the divine sweetness and with the joys of happy homes. Amen.

Third Session

Monday December 1 1930

We bow in humble submission before the throne of the God of our Fathers with the deepest gratitude for the evangels of Thy love and mercy. We thank

Thee for that shelter and succor which are far beyond what the world can give. Thou art the source of our fondest aspirations, visions, and dreams. More than ever before do Thou inspire us with the love of justice, with the old-time passion for righteousness, with the old-time sympathy for the oppressed, and with the old American ideals of a better country and a better future. Bring us into a unity of soul and of allegiance to one Lord and one law. With mighty convictions, with mighty surrenders, and with mighty endeavors may we rededicate ourselves at the altars of the Republic, the American toiler, and the American home. O let the resistless undercurrent of our national life move tremendously in favor of sound, substantial government. Thus wilt thou catch a glorious glimpse of us as the sons of God coming into our true appointed heritage. Do Thou most graciously remember our President, our Speaker, the Members, officers, and pages of this Congress. Finally, blessed Lord God, may peace, righteous peace, soon lie like a golden shaft across the faces of all lands. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday
December 2
1930

OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, do Thou hear our prayer, for we are united together in a common infirmity, with common sinfulness, with a common need of forgiveness, and with a common necessity of that love which must forever come from the soul of God. Cleanse every truth that enters our minds, every beauty that is welcomed by our imagination, and every deed that is executed by our wills. O may our service be strong, patriotic, and positive, and right here may we cast the anchor of our courage. Bless us with a compelling faith in our country, in our fellow men, and in Thee. May the passing clouds of doubt never cast their shadows. Amen.

Wednesday December 3 1930

O Infinite Power of Love, we praise Thee that a new day is full of sublime significance. It is the breath of God flowing out of one eternity into another. Let to-day smile to greet us with new opportunities for doing good and being good. Thou who knowest the unexpressed desires of every heart, grant us the things that are good and helpful. Give us the power of realizing more of that which belongs to our spiritual natures; let us feel the tremulous touches of heavenly joy. Always may character and conscience have their ways in the defense of the Republic and in the perpetuity of righteous government. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Friday December 5 1930

Our Father in heaven, we wait in expectant silence. We trust that in the channels of our breasts are flowing the streams of gratitude. Again the window has opened through the settled cloud into the ultimate blue. We feel the rhythmic note of Thy abiding mercy. Our words falter for expression beneath the weight of their appeal. O God of the extending universe, pardon our failures and bridge our infirmities. In a world where strange fancies rise and fall, where vagaries are often passionate, do Thou ever hold us and whisper to us through Thy holy lips. Go with us all the way as we labor to deal justly, conquer wrong, and guard our country's honor. In the name of the Teacher of Nazareth. Amen.

Monday December 8 1930

Our Lord and our God, we thank Thee that this door of prayer is open and that we may enter. In Thy daily providence we behold the tokens of the divine presence and power. We are carried along on the divine currents, though we understand them not. Help us to possess our souls with constancy, high aim, and with valiant endeavor. Attune our

lives to some sweet melody so that the harmony of our characters may be more and more complete and the music of the future full and rich. We praise Thee, O God, that the peaceful splendor of the earth and sky, the opportunities and the incitements offered in this old world, testify that Thou dost still rule in mildness and mercy. Keep our outlook clear, purge our vision, and purify our hearts, and may the sessions of this Congress have solemn meanings. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday December 9 1930

LORD GOD OF OUR FATHERS, accept our recognition of our low estate. Thou knowest us altogether, and yet Thou art so mindful of us. O fill our minds with the blessedness of our Heavenly Father, who is so rich in goodness, pity, and love; in gratitude turn our faces toward the heights. Work marvels in lives transfigured and in our country reborn until our whole land shall be made so new that the ragged edges of unemployment shall hurt no more. Just now we wait with pleading lips as we ask: "O Lord, what wilt Thou have us do?" O breathe a holy psalm of love and sacrifice into all breasts and, Holy Spirit, brood over us and lead us all the way. Through Christ the Good Samaritan. Amen.

Wednesday December 10 1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, the Creator of all things holy and eternal, we would learn of Thee. Teach us, Father, that there is no way to a higher and nobler life except the path of duty and the fulfillment of the offices of a good man and an honest citizen. Make these our passion and our pride, for if we fail our labor will be like a cast-off scroll—unread forever. Do Thou protect us as a nation from blind drift and the sunless gulfs of anarchy, and fortify us with wisdom and the knowledge of the truth. Subdue and defeat the misguided and rebellious aliens of our country who would substitute for our representative gov-

ernment the false network of communistic vagaries and cause the social order to be overwhelmed and cast into fresh confusion. O God, stay Thou the elements in our land whose purpose is godless and whose plans are perilous. We are so grateful to-day for the symbolic teaching of our flag—with its stars of light, with its bars of white, and with the red of our Nation's sacrifice. We lift it to-day as an emblem of all that is great and holy in the magna charta of our Christian faith, and may it become an abiding reality at the very heart of the Republic. Amen.

Thursday December 11 1930

O God, it is Thy rod and Thy staff on which we would lean. If sorrow or disappointment cloud the day, Thou art our song and gladness. Here in this Chamber do Thou dignify and bless our fellowship one with another. Thou alone knowest what is best; do Thou help us and guide us, not according to our judgment but according to Thy infinite wisdom and goodness. Remember those who belong to us and are not with us. As the wind bloweth where it listeth and we know not whence it cometh or whither it goeth, so we know not how, but Thy Holy Spirit can make every home a sanctuary and every human heart an altar. Father of mercies, be pleased to do this. Amen.

Friday December 12 1930

From the foundation of the world, blessed Lord, Thou hast been the helper of man. Through victories and defeats, through tears and gladness may we walk with Thee in hope and in aspiration. May Thy Spirit, with its quickening power, abide in our midst. Make us sensitive to Thy presence, and keep us away from the things that are dark and sluggish, cold and hateful, and with an irresistible attraction draw us toward Thee; thus we may achieve successfully the tasks to which our country has appointed us. Cleanse us from false pride and all vanity, from

binding passions and besetting sins, and from all habits imperfectly controlled. Take out of every contest the sting of bitterness and selfishness, and may sympathetic cooperation be exercised in all the deliberations of this Congress. We pray in our Savior's name. Amen.

Monday December 15 1930

OUR FATHER OF MERCIES, Thou art love, power, and redemption over all the earth. From eternity and through eternity Thou art God over all. Grant that the glimpses that we have of Thee may be so directed that we shall be inspired to go on to virtue, to fortitude, and to aspiration with the utmost endeavor. Blessed Lord God, by faith, by hope, and by love may we hold fast to Thee and patiently wait for Thy disclosures. While all things are transient and are passing away, yet amid all there is a blossoming in the wilderness, untouched and unsmitten. Strengthen us in all patience and make us fruitful in abundant good works. In the Savior's name. Amen.

Tuesday December 16 1930

OUR FATHER, vouchsafe unto us Thy presence. Give us the secret of that life that shall lift us above anxious care, fret, and worry and make us more than conquerors. Make us strong to return good for evil and to meet harsh words with quiet speech, and change all discordant notes into a melody that folds away all fears and bids our hearts and minds forget. Bless our entire country; make this Emmanuel's land, in which there shall be a nation of power which shall always use its might for justice and in behalf of the weak and unfortunate. We praise Thee that with the supremacy of Thy majesty and wonder there is a supremacy of tenderness, patience, and long-suffering. Hear us, O Lord, in this our petition. Amen.

Wednesday December 17 1930

Blessed Lord, our Heavenly Father, we rejoice in that tenderness, in that personal sympathy, and in that love which spring from Thy compassion. We draw near to Thee with renewed hopefulness; stir in us that manliness, that sturdy courage, and that faith that shall make us superior to circumstances. We pray for the extension of knowledge throughout our land and for the establishment of all our people not alone in outward strength but in the strength of God. May all Thy promises which respect the realm of the world be fulfilled and the glory of the Lord rest upon mankind. O let the pure light out of the heavens shine everywhere and all impure light return from whence it came. Clothe us with patience, gentleness, and forbearance. We pray in the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Thursday December 18 1930

Almighty God, Thou art our all-sufficient and everlasting portion, and this amazing truth is verified in our daily experience; we have recompense unspeakable. In our book of memory we turn the pages and recall the unutterable, invincible patience of God; blessed be Thy holy name. Give us directive wisdom for this day, and in all our ministrations gather us together in unity, in common desire, and in common labors for the welfare of our country and for the honor of its great name. Though we can not discern Thee in the circuit of Thy being, nor measure any part of the height, the depth, the length, or the breadth of divine love, yet we pray, do Thou let it fill our souls with gladness and wonder, and Thine shall be the praise. In the name of the Savior. Amen.

Friday December 19 1930

O Thou Lord of Glory, nothing is hidden from the eyes of the Eternal; therefore we bow in Thy holy presence in the spirit of humility. O conquer our pride by Thy condescension, heal our differ-

ences by Thy sacrifice, and cast out our greed by Thy unsearchable poverty. Approaching the Advent season, may it be our devout purpose that we shall be made humble, perfectly unselfish, and entirely generous. Deep in our breasts, where the tides of emotion ebb and flow and sometimes brooding urges beat, do Thou bestow the blessing of the untroubled heart. We thank Thee for all the blessed intimations which we have of Thy dignity, power, and joy which come to our souls when fashioned by the divine will. Amen.

Saturday
December 20
1930

ALMIGHTY GOD, we praise Thee for Him who has broken the silence of eternity and has made Thy face glorious. Beneath the cover of frail flesh throbbed the power that built the world, for in the manger cradle was the might of omnipotence. O God, may the whole earth hearken unto His appealing words of love and peace. In His presence loathsome lust sorrows, pride stalks along with bowed head, falsehood lays aside its mask, Mammon mourns a slave slipping from his shining fetters, and the sacrificial cross never harmonizes with the dripping sword. O let His light steal across our entire country, and may our fellow men walk in newness of light, conscious of a benevolence, of a brotherly love, and of a strength that are truly heavenly. O come, Mary's Holy Child, and deliver man from his starved heart and pour Thy blessing upon his restless, dissatisfied soul before he loses the very essence and the end of life. Abide Thou with our President, our Speaker, the Members of this Chamber, and give them all, and may they enjoy, good health and happiness. In the name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Monday
January 5
1931

WITH ACCENTS OF LOVE AND PRAISE, with blessings secret, sweet, and precious, we own Thee, O God, to be our Father. With solemn expectancy we turn

to Thee as the infinite source of all wisdom. With calm indifference to all unjust criticism, with absorbing interest and eager anticipation, may we strive to serve our country and be an abiding blessing to all our people. Bless us and inspire us with a pure, strong, vigorous type of statesmanship that holds no ignorant zeal or questioning loyalty or superficial sentiment. The Lord God of Hosts be with us day by day and let us sincerely hope to give our Republic entire satisfaction and place upon the temples of man unfortunate, man unemployed, and man who kept our flag unsullied the crown of our deepest gratitude and just appreciation. Again we wait. The hour came while the stars were paling and the dawn was whitening—the mantle fell from the shoulders of a Member of this Chamber and our true friend left us. We thank Thee, Father, for the strange peace that fell on him from above as he entered upon his eternal rest. Be gracious and merciful unto his loving hearthstone. Amen.

Tuesday January 6 1931

HEAVENLY FATHER, Thou art still unfolding for us the same wonderful providence as when the patriarchs trod the sands ages ago. In the presence of Thy perpetual bounties, rebuke us in love for our failures. Thy mercy is as a fruitful, fragrant vine climbing over the rough edges and places at our roadside. O Thou art the unchangeable, everlasting God who fainteth not, neither is weary. We praise Thee, who art infinite in excellence, transcendent in power, and God over all. Rise, O Sun of Righteousness, with healing in Thy beams and bring us to our best intelligence and our best natures. Hasten us on between the posts of duty. Through Christ our blessed Savior. Amen.

Wednesday January 7 1931

WITH THE BOLDNESS OF LOVE and with humble confidence, we wait in this quiet moment, Heavenly Father. Thy chastisements have been most

merciful. Come to our rescue, if we are weak and overborne; and if we are captive, release us and become our Redeemer. Be pleased, O God, to remember us, and may everything that is benign and pure rule over whatever is selfish, proud, and hateful. Thou who broodest over the world and dost spread abroad Thy wings and it is night, and let Thy face shine and it is day, make us Thy children of the morning, walking, waiting patiently for that character that shall be in us when we see Thee face to face. Let the divine impulse rest upon us this day. Amen.

Thursday
January 8
1931

As Thou hast put us here, O Thou God of compassion, lay Thy hand upon us and bless us. We thank Thee for all the benign influences which have shaped our lives. As years roll by we shall think and talk of them with gratitude. To-day let us feel Thy presence breathing life and balm into all our natures. O thou divine Giver, give us the best things—joy unspeakable, peace that passeth understanding, and the heavenly voice that shall be to us a token of triumph. Enlarge our vision, broaden our horizon, and fill the heavens full of the evidences of fatherly benediction. In our tears, in our losses, and in our sorrows may we find victory. O Throne of Mystery, about which are clouds and darkness! O Throne of Grace, where our yearnings and our longings fall! O Elder Brother, hear us as we break the silence and give us wisdom. Amen.

Friday
January 9
1931

Just now, our blessed Heavenly Father, we would be lifted up above the lower range of our faculties and meditate for this moment in the realm of the invisible. There are many gods—gods of cruelty, gods of law, gods of equity—but what we need is the God of Divine Fatherhood, with patience, forbearance, and forgiveness. We praise Thee that Thou art our Lord and our God, and Thou wilt

sustain us when we falter, and even catch us when we fall. In this most baffling world, through its difficult ways of human adventure, we bless Thee for the assurance of our most holy faith. Welcome discordances, for they are the background of the sweet melody of the heavenly life. Welcome the crash of circumstances, for it drives us to the altar of dependence. Welcome infirmities, for they are the loosening of the cords of our earthly tabernacle. Welcome troubles, for they tell us that we are crossing the sea, and just ahead is the crown set in the sunburst of eternal glory. O God, lead us to where the farthest beacon beckons. Amen.

Saturday January 10 1931

Almighty God, when we consider the forces which would destroy and obliterate the divinity in man and the currents which are sometimes like irresistible gulf streams, how unspeakably grateful we are that Thou art a God of wisdom and a God of love. As we exist in weakness, stumbling through the world, Thou dost bear us along. Thou wilt surely brood over man until he reaches the stature of his spiritual manhood. We thank Thee for the generosity of the Infinite Heart and for the hand that supplies all our necessities until the whole divine scheme is made perfect. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Monday January 12 1931

We would say, our Father in heaven, "Still, still with Thee." We thank Thee for the hand that reaches down to the one who falls and for the hand that reaches out to the one who climbs. Along with Thee help us to live simple, contented, trustful lives. Lead us on, blessed Lord, with fatherly care, for no word ever spoken dies away in silence and no deed ever falls fruitless to the ground. O may we do our work well and exemplify the excellence of our faith in a living, merciful God. Amen.

Tuesday
January 13
1931

DIRECT US, O LORD GOD, to do that which befits us and to do it with cheerfulness and courage; thus by high endeavor we shall realize our best aspirations. Cleanse the very thoughts of our hearts, so that obedience to the laws of truth and justice shall be conformity to a healthy, patriotic devotion to the needs of our country. With Thee every weakness can be made strength and every hindrance an inspiration. Thy promises to us are so condescending, so tender, and so merciful. They are as wide as humanity and as deep as sin and as true as the oath of the Almighty. Verify them unto us this day in the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
January 14
1931

INFINITE GOD OUR FATHER, for all the sweet memories of the past and for all the wholesome dreams of the future we thank Thee. May these be foretokens of a life that we shall live when we shall have passed beyond earth's voices into the realms of perfect rest. We praise Thee for the songs of cheer and immortal love, which are as pure as the dew of the morning and as sweet as its breath. Encourage our worthy endeavors, increase our passionate thirst for righteousness and our hatred for ignorance. Give dignity and poise to our deliberations, and continue to lead us in that pathway that offers us study and inspires us to a high standard of public service and social duties. Amen.

Thursday
January 15
1931

MERCIFUL GOD, we thank Thee that to-day offers another opportunity for service. It is more—we would have it a new life-confessing dependence upon divine grace and entering upon an avowed devotion to our country's welfare. In public and in private life may we be strong, noble-minded, sweet-tempered, and loving-hearted, always with fresh delight in our labors. If lulled into carelessness, arouse us to manly vigor; and if we cherish any bit-

terness, permit us not to be overpowered by it. Above all achievements is the wonder of wonders and the marvelous possibility open to us, namely, that in spirit and in deed we can reflect the example of the Great Teacher. Our Father, parallel our pathway, and Thine shall be the glory. Amen.

Saturday January 17 1931

Thou who wouldst not break the bruised reed nor quench the smoking flax, we would look longingly toward Thee as our Father and breathe a little prayer for guidance. Be Thou our friend and Savior, and rule over our hearts and lives. Consider us, for we are imperfect, guilty of mistakes of judgment; we suffer for our frailties and faults. There is one heart in which we find a refuge—it is the Savior's. There is one hand that always lifts the torch—it is the Savior's. There is one star of hope that always burns—it is the Savior's. We thank Thee; and do Thou ever keep us in that pathway that leads to patriotic devotion, growth, and happiness. Amen.

Monday January 19 1931

Teach us Thy way, O Lord, and lead us in a plain path. Let us hear the inner voice; let it touch our souls with the fervor of divine aspiration; put its rhythmic note into our best thoughts and into our best hopes. We beseech Thee to be with the officers and Members of this Congress, for serving our country is a divine vocation and their labor is a sacred calling. Father in heaven, let not our good be evil spoken of. In the name of our Savior. Amen.

Tuesday January 20 1931

Thou who takest up the isles of the sea and weighest the mountains in scales and the hills in the balance—it is the instinct within that reaches toward Thee; Thou didst put it there. O Divine

Galilean, who lived the only earthly life of supreme good that we have ever known, teach us Thy secret that we may achieve the ends of our being without haste, tumult, or worry. Bless us to-day with a radiant joy and with a tranquil happiness that betray victory over the problems relating to the needs of our beloved country. These days, these hours, they measure our wisdom, our sense of duty, and our sympathy for our fellow men; they even measure our very lives. The Lord hear us for His name's sake. Amen.

Wednesday
January 21
1931

WE THANK THEE, ALMIGHTY GOD, that the merciful gates of Thy love stand open day and night. Our Father, we earnestly seek deliverance from the slavery of selfishness and from the passionate prey of evil desire, that we may bring honor to our station and give full proof of our high estate. Throughout our land subdue unjust criticism, and in our hearts may we raise the high anthem of a nation's worth and pride, bearing loyalty and fidelity to our Christian institutions. Bring us all into concord with the fine and patriotic hopes and aspirations of the sons and daughters of toil. O may we labor, may we dream, may we long, and may we grasp the breadth, the length, the depth, and the height of the divine plan. In the name of the Savior. Amen.

Thursday
January 22
1931

THOU WHO ART THE VINE AND THE WONDER, keep us this day in the folds of peace and cooperation. Stimulate us with lofty thoughts that neither harsh tongue nor rash judgments shall prevail or disturb. The cloud of resentment, may it not darken our brows; the song of hate, may it not fall from our lips; the scrofula of unchastity, may it not nurse in our bosoms. Blessed Lord, take us and shield us, and if unworthy rebuke us; if our aims are low, challenge them and spare us from the regretful way that ends in failure. When our own little earth breaks up, let the heavens open. Amen.

Friday January 23 1931

Our Father in Heaven, we thank Thee for the words, "Cast your care upon God, for He careth for you." Impress us that abiding happiness is not only a possibility but a duty. That we can live above fret and worry are realities in human experience. O keep us from that which lowers the level of life and breeds confusion, for "though the earth be removed and though the mountains be carried into the midst of the sea" we need not fear, because God is our Father and He will not permit any permanent ill to befall His children. Continue to endow us with good health and a high average of thought and with all those virtues that make life worth while. To-day and every day help us to live trustful, tranquil lives, meeting storm with calm, adversity with fortitude, defeat with faith, and may we always have a place in the everlasting arms. Amen.

Saturday January 24 1931

Merciful Father, may this be a brief meeting place between God and us; listening, may we hear the secrets of Thy whisper and hasten on our errands of labor. Work in us, O God, developing the treasures of wisdom and knowledge, and thus fortifying us for the public service. Father of love, lift us toward the heights, so that we shall never permit critic or enemy to degrade our souls to the level of hate. Give us power to rise above obloquy, ingratitude, false charges, and even the loss of reputation. Help us to learn from life's lesson that the great world is a school and circumstances are educational which work toward culture and refinement. In the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.

Monday January 26 1931

Breathe upon us, O breath of God, that we may love the things that Thou dost love and do that which Thou wouldst have us do. Concentrate our thoughts, our labors, and even our genius to soften the lot of the poor and the lowly; always restrain

us from harsh speaking and help us to cultivate sympathy in judgment. As Thy earthly children and as servants of the Republic, chosen to augment peace and contentment throughout our land, give us brave hearts and strong minds to calmly face life, meet its situations, do Thy will, and promote the kingdom of happiness in human hearts and homes. In the name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Wednesday
January 28
1931

WE PRAY IN THE NAME OF HIM who has brought immortal joy to this old earth and has given dignity and sanctity to toil and redeemed labor from scorn and contempt. In Thy sight, O Galilean, all bread is sacred bread, and in work there is a satisfaction which the world's wage can not give nor its absence take away. As these days come and go with their challenge, give us understanding for our intellects and more sympathy for the inner life. Words, our words, when they fall from our lips, our souls stand forth revealed. O make our conversations as wings of gold, going forth in truth and in purity, falling in heavenly notes among the heartstrings of our friends. Amen.

Thursday
January 29
1931

ALMIGHTY GOD, age by age shrouded in Thine eternal invisibility, in our darkest moods we find that faith in Thy personal presence is a terrible test. Have mercy upon us and forgive us; crown our beings with calmer spirits and wider vision, that we may see that Thou art working everywhere, even beyond the shadows, and keeping watch above Thine own. Happy is he who, looking up through the leafless branches, feels that Thou art there; happy is he who, looking beyond the dark depths of the open sky, feels that they are a canopy of blessing and that they only veil the unchangeable light; oh, happy is he who, when the day passes, feels that

the night only unveils new worlds, and he sees deeper into the love which is at the heart of all. Save us from submission to our lower impulses, for life is too high and too holy and our calling too sacred and too splendid. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday January 30 1931

THOU WHO ART THE JOY OF LIVING HEARTS, we turn again to Thee, for we recall the heights, the raptures, and the deathless passion of Him who is the Savior of men. The coldest heart warms at the remembrance of the word, "He had compassion upon them." In Thee we find a relief in sorrow, rest in weariness, comfort in bereavement, and an inspiration when our strength runs low. O put Thy touch upon our old, destructive weaknesses and convert them into forces that shall build up, purify, renew, and enrich our lives as they have never been before. May we rededicate ourselves to humanity and the free-born institutions of our country, and with a ready courage fling away any flimsy fetters from our emancipated souls. In the blessed name of Jesus. Amen.

Monday February 2 1931

O GOD, all souls that struggle and aspire find in Thee strength in weakness and an inspiration in disappointment. Truly, as man puts forth his hand in Thine, Thou dost allow nothing to paralyze his ideals or quench the essential ambition of his Christian manhood. Do Thou inspire us to take adverse circumstances and know that they are a call to perseverance, consecration, devotion, and self-mastery. These are the plain, heroic virtues that can lift the world and roll it along to the foot of the glorified cross. Father in Heaven, in this universe of starry splendors, unfathomable depths, and unthinkable immensities we thank Thee that we can not fall out of the hands of the infinite God. Amen.

Tuesday
February 3
1931

ALMIGHTY GOD, Thou art the one and profound remedy for human weakness and human sin. As a loving Father, Thou standest at the door of every heart and, with Thy fullness, art ready to enter. How we thank Thee for the greatness and the permanence of that love with which Thou hast loved us. Accept our deepest gratitude and continue with us in our great needs and ballast our very souls with wisdom and patience. Rekindle in us those mighty enthusiasms which shall make these days great and equip us as the strong sons of God. Thou hast two thrones—one in the highest heavens and one in the lowliest heart. All that Thou requirest of us is a beautiful and a humble life that deals justly, loves mercy, and walks with God in the chosen path of our high calling. Amen.

Wednesday
February 4
1931

TOUCH THAT STRANGE POWER WITHIN US, O GOD, that shall steel our faith in Thee by a settled and a steadfast will. Make us invincible in the presence of every temptation, and may we count no struggle too great and no sacrifice too costly to fulfill Thy law and our obligation to the Republic. Make us great in mind, strong in principle, pure in spirit, and, above all, enlarge our capacity for joy, for service, and for consideration of all men. Bless us with the virtues of resistance and with restraint, for these give form and force to character. Dignify this day with duty wisely performed, for herein lies true nobility of soul. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

Thursday
February 5
1931

INFINITE GOD, we are still blessed with the endless melody of divine mercy, which is forever chanted in the morning land of the heavenly world. Thy good angels still brood above us and tearful eyes are made tearless, clouds of gray are dissolved into radiant blue, and weary hearts find rest. How we praise Thee for this crowning wonder of divine

love! The hills are Thine and the strength of the mountains is Thine. Thou dost hold the cup of the majestic sea in which it rages and roars, and yet day and night we nestle in the hollow of Thy hand. Marvelous are Thy works, O Lord! We thank Thee for the everlasting foundation on which we may repose in this rushing, restless world. Do Thou set our souls to-day in a soil enriched by the flowing tides of the river of life that we may bear fruit in every good work. In the holy name of our Savior we pray. Amen.

Friday February 6 1931

Our Heavenly Father, may we breathe out our heartfelt prayer with penitent confession and triumphant trust. We would earnestly seek Thee that our whole life may be free, useful, and joyous. We thank Thee for the knowledge we have of Thy personal redeeming and enfolding love. In the light of this truth help us to cultivate our high moral sense, testing it by the standard of the Master. O God, may we never fail Thee nor our fellow men. Make us true to every precept of Thy law and unfailingly loyal to the obligations of justice, truth, and purity. As on and on we go, may we advance toward the fulfillment of our destiny. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Saturday February 7 1931

Our blessed Father in heaven, wherever Thy name is known its praise is sung by rich and poor. With words pulsating with eternity, Thou hast spoken to all through Thy only begotten Son. Walking each day with Him, noble graces and virtues spring in our hearts and lives. Out of these will flow sincerity of purpose, purity of thought, and spirituality of life. Thus, O God, make our calling effectual, filling us with grand conceptions which enrapture our daily tasks. Let not our thought of Thee be little, but big, bathing our souls with Thy divine spirit, lest their delicacy be violated, for they can so easily pass into unhealthy indifference. Flood our

days with patriotic and intellectual romance, so that we shall love our country and clasp its standard to our breasts. Amen.

Monday February 9 1931

INFINITE GOD, Thy love, which passeth knowledge, passeth utterance as well. It is not a matter of human logic, it is a ministry for tears. We thank Thee for Him who has unveiled our Father's heart and become the touchstone and the test of character. We praise Thee that because of Him man everywhere can be tranquil and satisfied, quenching his immortal thirst in that river of life that proceedeth out of the throne of God. With the coming of each sun comes Thy loving providence, and with each going day God remains. Our Heavenly Father, speak, speak to us to-day of the things that we shall never find in the world. Lead us to the very edge of Thy garment, and there let us enter the realm of understanding. Let there be no bitter note in our voice, nor twist in our vision, nor perversion in our judgment. Amen.

Tuesday February 10 1931

GOD BE MERCIFUL UNTO US and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us. In our lives let everything be put aside that is not essential to more thought, pure friendship, and deep emotions. Withdraw the veil from the eyes of men, Father of Mercies, that they may know that Thou hast made everything beautiful in its time. Do Thou spare our country from egotism, self-confidence, and exasperated resentment. Deliver our wonderful land from the inconsistencies and fiery excesses of the misguided agitators. Bring all men together in the bonds of wise cooperation and in unity of spirit. Take them, O God, and bind their very souls to Thy holy altar, where the wickedness of class hatred may be forever crucified. Spread Thy shadow over our entire country and bring it into that era wherein happiness and contentment are all but uni-

versal from border to border and from sea to sea. In the name of Jesus of Nazareth, the friend of man. Amen.

Thursday February 12 1931

O THOU, OUR HEAVENLY FATHER, the One who comest with the rising morn and the One who stayest when the sun goes down, hear our prayer in the name of Him who taught us all to pray. While our lives are rooted in occupation and industry, O let us remember that the flowers take their beauty and fragrance from the heavens above. In the immortal name of the rugged son of the West, call us to surrender our wills to the one supreme allegiance to Columbia, our dear homeland. Thus reminded, may we be deeply thankful for the conspicuous sons of our Nation's past. They are the heritage of the Republic. They have made a cathedral aisle out of our history, and its walls are crowded with the splendid tablets and memorials commemorating their contribution to our civilization. May they live in the throbbing heart of the present, urging us on to greater issues and vaster deeds. O Lord God, as they sleep, pillowed in the bosom of kindly Mother Earth, where the call of duty shall no more summon them, may we, the living, be loyal and true to our country, and hope, work, and pray for its highest good. Amen.

Friday February 13 1931

LET OUR HEARTS, singing the song of gratitude, be our grace to Thee, our Heavenly Father. Bless us this day with that satisfaction that comes to one who has been faithful to his task. Crown our lives, O God, with the fruits of the Spirit—with happiness that radiates in the eye, that blushes in the face, and that ripples with innocent laughter, with peace which belongs to the tranquil stars, with long-suffering that lends fortitude to patriots and endurance to heroes. Bless us with these treasures and let them

break into voice and action, making our characters an inspiration. Let devotion to duty with knowledge of our country's needs become a contagion among us, emancipating our fellow citizens until their faith in our Government may always see the best glimmering through the worst. Hear us, blessed Lord God, and Thine shall be the praise. Amen.

Saturday February 14 1931

FATHER OF MERCY, do Thou hearken unto our prayer. Thou who art the foundation of life's way, the vine with clustering food, the shadow of a great rock against life's heat, the great physician when the traveler falls, the friend all along the journey, and the open door at the end of the way, consider us and bless us and accept the offerings of our grateful hearts. We praise Thee for Him who is the one perfect flower of divine manhood. To-day, O God, may our very best judgment and wisdom be translated into service. Make all our institutions sacred, beautiful, sweet, and human. O for that life that shall transform the individual, soften government, give humanity to law and sanctity to society. The Lord be gracious and merciful and hear our longing. Amen.

Monday February 16 1931

JUST TO DRAW APART and be still in Thy holy presence, O God, is a comfort and satisfaction. Here may we leave our burdens and the memory of our failures and reconsecrate ourselves to all that is worthy. We would beseech Thee to help us discern the spiritual meanings of the common things of life. Whatever our task, never allow it to be manifested against the truth. Let the endless song of some far-off hymn of faith and hope find an echo in our souls. Heavenly Father, arm us against temptation, lest we fall like a reed before the wind, and lead us to understand tremendously that character is a sub-

lime height to which we must climb on the golden rounds of choice and purpose. We pray in the holy name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Tuesday February 17 1931

Our Heavenly Father, we thank Thee for that Book of Life which points out the paths that lead to peace, happiness, and to a glorious destiny. "Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of God"; may we heed the injunction. O God of the nations, take our Republic, with its teeming multitudes, and baptize them with humble devotion to the plain, simple virtues. Arouse them with a passion for the old-time faith which at the beginning made the glory and perpetuity of our country possible. Blessed Lord, take the hearthstones of our land, and may they be dedicated to Christian simplicity and unselfishness. O let the shadow of Calvary's cross fall across everyone. Everywhere sweeten the lives of weary hearts and save them from ugliness of mind and deformity of morals. Infinite Father, inspire us all to remember who we are, what we are, and what we represent, and keep us always under the control of the better angels of our natures. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Wednesday February 18 1931

Our Heavenly Father, we pray in the name of Him who is the companion and friend of our common day; who came to preach good tidings to the poor; who went about doing good; who identified Himself with the races of men; who came to make earth happier and to deepen, broaden, and enrich human life. We pray in the name of Him who bends above us as the angel of our Father's face. O God, in the name of Him touch the great heart of the Republic and glorify it with a service that shall bring radiant hope to the humblest citizen of our land. Through generous sacrifice stay the rav-

ages of misfortune ere it continues its weary work. Yes, blessed Lord, hear us; open the heart of the entire country lest there be no music to charm away the fateful dreams of the poor and unfortunate. We pray in the name of Him who died in the majesty of His wonderful sacrificial love. Amen.

Thursday February 19 1931

ALMIGHTY GOD, let thy work appear unto Thy servants, and Thy glory unto their children. And let the beauty of the Lord Thy God be upon us; establish Thou the work of our hands upon us; yea, the work of our hands, establish Thou it. Amen.

MEMORIAL EXERCISES

ALMIGHTY GOD, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid, cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love Thee and worthily magnify Thy holy name. Amen.

The earth is the Lord's, and the fullness thereof; the world, and they that dwell therein. For He hath founded it upon the seas, and established it upon the floods. Who shall ascend into the hill of the Lord? or who shall stand in His holy place? He that hath clean hands and a pure heart; who hath not lifted up his soul unto vanity, nor sworn deceitfully. He shall receive the blessing from the Lord, and righteousness from the God of his salvation. This is the generation of them that seek Him, that seek thy face, O Jacob. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord, strong and mighty; the Lord, mighty in battle. Lift up your heads, O ye gates; even lift them up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of Glory shall come in. Who is this King of Glory? The Lord of Hosts, He is the King of Glory.

Let not your heart be troubled; ye believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a

place for you. And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself, that where I am there ye may be also.

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding out of the throne of God and of the Lamb. In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, was there the tree of life, which bare twelve manner of fruits, and yielded her fruit every month; and the leaves of the tree were for the healing of the nations. And there shall be no more curse: but the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it; and His servants shall serve Him: And they shall see His face, and His name shall be in their foreheads. And there shall be no night there; and they need no candle, neither light of the sun; for the Lord God giveth them light; and they shall reign forever and ever.

Break, break, break,
  On thy cold, gray stones, O Sea;
And I would that my tongue could utter
  The thoughts that arise in me.

O well for the fisherman's boy,
  That he shouts with his sister at play;
O well for the sailor lad,
  That he sings in his boat on the bay.

And the stately ships go on
  To their haven under the hill;
But O for the touch of a vanquished hand
  And the sound of a voice that is still!

Break, break, break
  At the foot of thy crags, O Sea!
But the tender grace of a day that is dead
  Will never come back to me.

O yet we trust that somehow good
  Will be the final goal of ill,
  To pangs of nature, sins of will,
Defects of doubt, and taints of blood.

That nothing walks with aimless feet;
  That not one life shall be destroyed,
  Or cast as rubbish to the void,
When God hath made the pile complete.

That not a worm is cloven in vain;
  That not a moth with vain desire
  Is shriveled in a fruitless fire,
Or but subserves another's gain.

So runs my dream, but what am I?
  An infant crying in the night;
  An infant crying for the light;
And with no language but a cry.

I falter where I firmly trod,
  And falling with my weight of cares
  Upon the great world's altar stirs
That slope through darkness up to God.

I stretch lame hands of faith and grope,
  And gather dust and chaff, and call
  To what I feel is Lord of all,
And faintly trust the larger hope.

INFINITE GOD, THE ONE FATHER OF US ALL, in this silence may we find our song of praise. Our hearts and memories are moved over scenes and associates which are no more. Let this calm mellow our lives and hallow our thoughts as above them cluster those heavenly secrets which the tongue can not tell. Over these they brood with a miser's care. Our departed Members have labored through storm; they have loitered on the moonlit tide; they have rested, and they have waited; and in an expectant moment the heavens opened and their souls became immortal. Bless those whose hearts are bedewed with love and tenderness. When Thou comest in the darkness, when Thy hand is severe, when the thorn enters the side and our loved ones are smitten, then Thou art most gracious and full of mercy. O loving Heavenly Father, in the arms of faith we bring all sorrowing hearts to Thee, Thou whose name is above every name, the One with a marred face, the pierced hand, and the wounded side; be Thou the divine herald who goes before, proclaiming final peace and perfect happiness. Amen.

Friday
February 20
1931

OUR FATHER WHO ART IN HEAVEN, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come and Thy will be done on earth. Then will be abolished race hatred, class struggle, and this world of ours shall be a beautiful home for Thy redeemed children. May the simple,

human qualities that make men helpful and loving be not neglected by us. O blow ye winds and fill the sails of our great ship of state, and send us on and on to our ultimate task and our final harbor. We thank Thee for the best, the freest, and the bravest country on earth, our own United States. God bless the Stars and Stripes while the centuries pass by. In the name of the world's Savior. Amen.

Saturday February 21 1931

We bless Thee, our Father in heaven, that we are still in the bosom of Thy love, and pray that we may be lifted up into the relationship of the sons of God. Let Thy Spirit arouse in us all dormant affections and clear our vision that we may behold in the evolutions of human affairs Thy goodness and power. May charity abound among us; all gentleness and graciousness; all love and fidelity; all simplicity and purity. Let that which is contrary to Thy law be repressed, and that which is good, wholesome, and helpful—O let it flame forth, even as a sacred fire. Be with us this day and allow not our hearts and minds to shiver in the valley of forbidding isolation, but lead us to the hill slopes of hope, faith, and love. Amen.

Monday February 23 1931

Blessed be Thy name, O Thou Most High. We beseech Thee to hear us as we pray the prayer of him who was first in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen; may it measure the test of our manhood and our dependence upon the God of our fathers: "Almighty God, we make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection and Thou wilt incline the heads of the citizens to cultivate the spirit of subordination and obedience to government and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and their fellow citizens of the United

States at large. And finally Thou wilt be most graciously pleased to dispose us all to do justice, love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind which were characteristic of the divine Author of our blessed religion, without the imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Tuesday February 24 1931

TURN AGAIN, O DIVINE REDEEMER, and cause Thy face to shine upon us, and may we recognize in Thee a loving Father. Endow us with that deep consciousness that we derive whatever is best from Thee and that which will outlive all earthly glory. Sustain us with that life of trust and fidelity which is patiently borne. Do Thou bless all parents and their children, and may all homes be established in truth, purity, and love. In the presence of questions and perplexities give us clear understanding; always point out the way of personal rectitude and persuade us that the highest culture is to speak no ill. In the Savior's name. Amen.

Wednesday February 25 1931

WHEN WE LIFT OUR THOUGHTS and affections to Thee, Heavenly Father, we know that Thou art there. We would join the choral melody of the universe and ascribe honor and power, dominion and glory unto Him who sitteth upon the throne. O God, enable us to be courageous in every cause that is just, for there is no legacy richer than honesty. We have the power to stand and we have the power to fall, but ours is the divine right to stand. The Lord God help and support us. Oh, it is fair fortune that extends her hand to the one of honest might. Succor those who may be in danger; break the snare for those who might fall, and let the innocent

go free. Abide with us, so that we shall be patient under trials, strong under burdens, and full of faith under clouds. Amen.

Thursday February 26 1931

We rejoice in Thee, blessed Lord, for Thou dost pour forth life everywhere. With our imperfections and faults, Thou dost love us, and we pray that our gratitude may be consecrated in thanksgiving and praise, for ingratitude is the worst of vices. We thank Thee for the blessing and the bounty of work, for doing nothing is doing ill, and he who is idle is outside of God's plans. Teach us, O Father, that he who does his best does well. Be with us along every pathway, and may we learn, protect, and build up. Dwell in every home where there is sickness or sorrow, and be to all as the shadow of a great rock, as a fountain in the desert, and as brooding wings, underneath which we may rest. Through Christ our Savior. Amen.

Friday February 27 1931

Awaken in us, our Heavenly Father, a deep sense of Thy mercies, which, unasked, fall upon us each day. We trust that we are truly grateful for that gentle One whose soft touch once fell upon the foreheads of little children and who opened wide His arms to shelter the world of men. May He steal silently into our hearts, rebuking our tendencies and giving our tongues a ministry of wisdom and inspiration. We pray that our sons and daughters may be preserved from the luxury that shrivels and from the pride that strives. Lead them, our Father, to realize that strength and knowledge are never so sublime as when they stoop to weakness and ignorance. Do Thou impress them that honest toil lends a certain satisfaction which wealth can not increase nor poverty take away. O come and remain with

us, that we may know that there is nothing so grand as forgiveness and that which is best in life is cheapest. In our Savior's name. Amen.

Saturday February 28 1931

THOU who art the Judge and the Ruler of all men with hearts strong and courageous, we would fling ourselves upon our tasks, yet allow them not to drown the voices of our souls. How precious is life, O Lord! To it belong the music and the language which are divine. Our Father, come to us from every angle; touch us at every point and enter every door of our natures; shape our lives and fill all their human powers, so that we may do our work in a faultless way to the full measure of our high calling. While in this world we shall never find perfect satisfaction, yet with our trust in Thee, unterrified amid the uncertainties of life, may we dauntlessly go on our way. Again we wait another moment with an upward spiritual gaze and, listening, may we catch some far faint harmony from the unseen above. Let the light that is overhead come, and may its moral might and majesty direct us this day. Amen.

Monday March 2 1931

WE DRAW NEAR TO THEE, OUR FATHER, not as unto an avenging God but by the way of a merciful Savior, touched with a feeling of our infirmities. Be with us this day. May we be patient and gentle, courageous and strong without rudeness. Again death has reduced our ranks. Beloved and honored in public and in private life, bearing a dignity and poise, the insignia of a wonderful character. Yes, Father, he has left us. O Death, thou dost come equally to all and make us all equal when thou dost come. We walk in no strange way. It was the way of the prophets, the apostles, the martyrs, the pioneers, and it will be our way. May we wait and walk patiently with Him who sends forth His love even as the sun sends forth the summer. Loving

Father, remember her who in weakness is bowed in the silence of an unspeakable sorrow which curtains to-day in darkness, blots the sun out of noonday and the stars out of the night. The companion of the years sits bereaved and alone—the cheerless heavens above, the homeless earth beneath, and the tempest beating against her with its pitiless storm. O God, if Thou art just—and Thou art—then come and be her eternal refuge; take her to the Father's arms, the Father's breast, to the Father's heart, and at the last to the Father's home. Amen.

Tuesday
March 3
1931

CONSCIOUS of our inability to sustain ourselves because of care and temptation, O Thou from whom are breathed the spirit of courage and endurance, have compassion upon us and bless us. May we have access to Thee as a comfort in all trials, as our illumination in all darkness, as a guidance in our perplexities, and as a stability when we are weak and unstable. Grant to every one of us that helpfulness which we need in the conflicts of our own souls and in the warfare of our own lives. May we strive to be first in wisdom and knowledge, and thus may we become the ministers and the servants of all. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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